



■ WNF Member

WNF Members Newsletter



Natural University of Natural Medicine (NUNM)

The Helfgott Research Institute at the **Natural University of Natural Medicine (NUNM)** has recently undergone leadership changes, with Joshua Goldenberg taking over as Associate Director and Heather Zwickey assuming the role of Vice President of Research. Helfgott extends its deep gratitude to Ryan Bradley for his stellar leadership and successful tenure these past years. This year, Helfgott will complete the successful decade-long NIH BRIDG grant, which has laid substantial groundwork for future projects and trained numerous cohorts of integrative medicine researchers. Helfgott's NIH funded ENER-G grant on evidence-based nutrition has now entered its second year, driving forward essential insights into nutritional science. Further, Helfgott has continued to grow its collaborations with the natural medicine industry enabling new studies supported by innovative partnerships. In short, Helfgott continues its tradition of producing high quality research and researchers.



- Joshua Goldenberg succeeds Ryan Bradley, taking on new responsibilities in advancing our research goals.
- Heather Zwickey now serves as the VP of Research, strengthening our strategic direction.
- Numerous contract research projects support innovation in natural medicine through industry partnerships.
- We conclude a successful 10-year NIH grant.
- Entering the second year of ENER-G, focusing on evidence-based nutrition and driving new insights in health research.



2nd Academic Symposium on Naturopathy

On August 10, the **Escuela de Naturopatía del Uruguay** organized the Second Academic Symposium on Naturopathy, Well-being and Mental Health, "adding knowledge towards integrative medicine."



- This is the first time in Uruguay that a Naturopathy event was recognized with a Declaration of Interest by the Ministry of Public Health. Ministry representative, Dr. Kelsy Arbiza, delivered welcoming remarks, congratulating the organizing team for their efforts.
- Acknowledging the importance of the Symposium's international scope, the Ministry of Tourism also presented a Declaration of Interest document.
- Setting for the symposium was the Radisson Victoria Plaza Hotel, one of the most prestigious hotels in Uruguay.
- The WNF was represented by 1st Vice President, Caio Fábio Portella, Naturopath, from Brazil.
- The ANTHU Symposium was supported by the Association of Naturopaths of Uruguay.



Creating a Culture of Research



Creating a culture of research and sharing research relevant to evidence-informed practices of naturopathic doctors is the cornerstone of the **Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM)**'s mission. Established as the Department of Clinical Research & Epidemiology with its first publication in 1998, CCNM has made some significant strides in advancing knowledge about naturopathic medicine over the past 25 years.

- Over 300 publications in peer reviewed journals
- Secured competitive research funding of over \$12 million from a variety of governmental, non-governmental, industry and philanthropic sources
- Collaborated with close to 100 different organizations on research projects
- Currently engaged in 25 funded research projects, 5 of which are clinical trials, and dozens of other projects that leverage faculty, student, staff, and volunteers
- Research at CCNM is currently supported by a staff of 10 individuals across two campuses, as well as the Patterson Institute for Integrative Oncology



Collaboration Within the Profession and Beyond

The **Complementary Medicine Association (CMA)** is excited to announce a new collaboration with **Southern Cross University (SCU)**, offering members a grant opportunity to advance their education and participate in a clinical research project. This initiative is designed to enhance professional development and encourage active involvement in research among members.



- A new section of the website is now dedicated to showcasing our members' publications and research projects.
- The CMA, along with other partners in the Australian Naturopathic Council, are working with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) for the registration of Naturopaths. This significant step will enhance the recognition and regulation of naturopathic practices.
- We have recently engaged in consultations with state and federal health ministers to advocate for an integrative approach to public health, aiming to improve healthcare outcomes through holistic practices and policies.



Congratulations!

SGT University student, Mr. Anmol Khajuria, pursuing the Bachelor of Naturopathy and Yogic Sciences program, secured second place in the oral and poster presentation competition held during the 3rd Cochrane Conclave. Of the 23 teams, Mr. Anmol was the only student from 70+ naturopathic medical schools to take part in this competition. The award included a certificate of appreciation, cash and a shield in appreciation of the achievement. The judges were from the USA and UK global research communities.



Demand for Naturopathic Treatment Drives Change

Due to an increased demand for naturopathic treatments in Switzerland, half of the country's private insurance companies now require naturopathic professionals to hold a federally-recognized qualification to enable their patients to receive reimbursement.

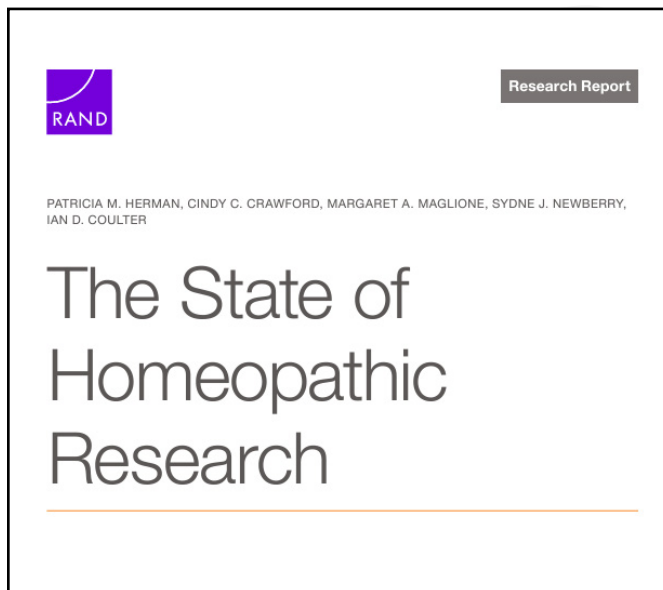
- This evolution is pushing TCIH professionals to graduate as a "naturopath with federal diploma" (4000-hour curriculum)
- Initiated in 2015, federal standards regulate the educational programs of schools that decide to become federally-accredited (like **EPSN**), as well as regulate the clinical practice.
- Naturopaths trained before 2015 will need to up-grade through federally-recognized training.

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Studying the Outcomes of Complimentary Care

For over 4 years, **Bastyr University**, along with 9 other CIH institutions (now a total of 16) have been members of the RAND Center for Collaborative Research in Complementary and Integrative Health (now the NCCIH-funded U-24 RAND REACH Center).



Two members of Bastyr University staff, Nazanin Vassighi, ND, DHANP, Associate Professor and Core Faculty, and Paul Amieux, PhD, Administrative Director of Research, in partnership with ND Homeopathic practitioners from Sonoran University of Health Sciences and University of Western States, as well as researchers from Southern California University of Health Sciences and the RAND REACH Center itself, recently completed a year-long project.

The study titled "The State of Homeopathic Research" (funded by the Samuelli Foundation), examined the state of homeopathic research by critically assessing the overall quality of the homeopathic clinical research literature.



Hispano-American Meeting Caps a Busy Year

WNF Non-Profit Partner **Naturópatas para Chile** has seen an active year in 2024. Highlights include:



- Over 100 participants in 5 UC Christus (Catholic University Health Assistance Networks) locations attended workshops to learn the benefits of naturopathy and aromatherapy.
- Based on 2 public surveys that revealed 85.8% and 93.1% wanted access to complimentary medicine in municipal clinics or public hospitals, in October the government introduced new Complementary Medicine Policy and Health Wellness Practices.
- Capping a very successful year, the VII Hispano-American Meeting of Naturopathy was held in Chile for the first time. Hosted by Naturópatas para Chile, with the support of the ministry of Health, this international event highlighted the importance of natural and complementary medicine in the context of public health, promoting a collaborative work space and scientific validation.



Will Public Health Fund Rebates Return?



- The **Naturopaths and Herbalists Association of Australia (NHAA)** has been championing the reinstatement of private health fund rebates for naturopaths and herbalists. We've had successful meetings with key advisors from the Health and Shadow Health Ministers' offices, as well as the Department of Health.
- The NHAA has submitted a comprehensive response to the Review of Complexity in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, highlighting a significant shift in health practitioner regulation and potentially offering a clearer pathway for the registration of Naturopaths and Western Herbal Medicine practitioners. The NHAA remains optimistic that this review process will lead to a more inclusive regulatory framework, and is committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to achieve the best outcomes for the profession and the public.



CAND Journal – Upcoming Oncology Special Edition

CAND Journal (CANDJ), the indexed and peer-reviewed journal of the **Canadian Association of Naturopathic Doctors (CAND)** is pleased to announce that we will be running a Special Edition on Naturopathic cancer care for the Spring edition of CANDJ, due out in mid-June 2025.



- This edition will showcase best practices, novel observational trials, and updated clinical decision-making articles relevant to naturopathic cancer care.
- Prominent Canadian and international research teams will be showcasing current projects.
- Submission deadline is March 1st, 2024.
- For more information, please [reach out](#) to the CANDJ Editor in Chief, Marianne Trevorrow.



African Naturopath Called to Gambian Bar



Professor Raphael Nyarkotey Obu, a naturopath and advocate for traditional and naturopathic medicine, recently became the first African naturopath called to the Gambian Bar. As a Barrister and Solicitor of The Supreme Court of The Gambia, he plans to establish a legal firm focused exclusively on supporting traditional and naturopathic medicine. He leads Ghana's **Nyarkotey University College of Holistic Medicine** and pioneered Ghana's first occupational standards for naturopathy.