

Section of Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry
2026 Conference
Many minds, one mission:
advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in mental health care
20-22 March 2026 • Launceston, Tasmania

Friday 20 March 2026 | Day 1

12:30-13:30	Lunch on arrival & registration open
12:30 -14.40	Session Chair: Dr Nicholas Burns
13:30-14:30	Keynote address <i>"Sustainability, sea country and kinship"</i> Professor Emma Lee OAM, Federation University
14:40-15:00	Afternoon tea
15:00-16:30	Session chair: A/Professor Greg de Moore
15:00-16:00	<i>Debate: Generalism or sub-specialisation?</i> <i>Topic: Rehabilitation psychiatry should be its own unique sub-specialty</i> Facilitator: A/Professor Greg de Moore Affirmative Team: Dr Frances Dark, Dr Angelo Virgona, A/Professor Stephen Parker Negative Team: Dr Agnew Alexander, Dr Arnob Chakraborti, Professor David Castle
16:00-16:30	<i>Panel discussion</i>
17:00-19:00	Welcome reception

Saturday 21 March 2026 | Day 2: Social determinants of mental health

08:00-09:00	Registration open
09:00-10:30	Session Chair: Dr Nicholas Burns
09:00-10:00	<i>Social and emotional well-being and decolonizing health narratives</i> Professor Jen Evans
10:00-10:30	<i>Social inequity and mental health outcomes</i> A/Professor Matthew Coleman
10:30-11:00	Morning tea
11:00-12:30	Session Chair: Dr Nicholas Burns
11:00-11:30	<i>Migration experience and mental health outcomes</i> Professor David Castle
11:30-12:00	<i>Childhood adverse events and mental health outcomes</i> Professor Brett McDermott
12:00-12:30	<i>Panel discussion</i>
12:30 -13:30	Lunch
14:00 -17:00	Free time
18:00-20:00	Conference dinner Guest speaker: A/Professor Greg de Moore

Sunday 22 March 2026 Day 3: Co-facilitated with WAPR-AU	
08:00-09:00	Registration open
09:00-10:15	Session Chair: Professor Lisa Brophy
09:00 -9:40	<i>Fixing the NDIS for people with psychosocial disability</i> Professor Jennifer Smith-Merry
09.40-10.05	<i>Updates on NDIS reforms for people with psychosocial disability</i> Dr Gerry Naughtin <i>(Consultant & former NDIS strategic adviser on psychosocial disability)</i>
10.05-10.15	<i>Q&A session</i>
10:15-10:45	Morning tea
10.45-11.15	<i>Perspectives of a small service provider and the interface with mental health services</i> Dorothy Belperio <i>(WAPR Australia President, Managing Director Connexion One & Health Connexion)</i>
11.15-11.45	<i>The impact of current reforms from a peak body perspective</i> Cathy Limb <i>(State Manager Tasmania - National Disability Service)</i>
11.50-12.45	<i>Panel discussion</i> Chair: Lisa Brophy <i>(Professor in Social Work and Social Policy at La Trobe University)</i> Dr Gerry Naughtin, Cathy Limb, Dorothy Belperio, Professor Jennifer Smith-Merry
12.45-13.00	<i>Conference close</i> Dr Nicholas Burns
13:00 -14:00	Lunch and departure