

Are you Australia's top pharmacy student?

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The 2007 PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY) award is underway again, and later this year we'll know who is Australia's top pharmacy student.

The PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year award recognises outstanding pharmacy students by showcasing their skills and abilities to the pharmacy profession.

Aimed at final year pharmacy students, the PSA Pharmacy Student of the Year award has counselling as its focus. The award recognises the importance of communication and counselling skills in best pharmacy practice.

The award provides top students with the opportunity to gain professional recognition, which is an important advantage as they enter their professional field after graduation.

PSA National President, Brian Grogan said:

"The PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year award is a tremendously popular competition and provides an ideal opportunity for pharmacy students to demonstrate to our profession the high level of counselling skills they possess. Each year, I am impressed with the students' counselling abilities, and the selection of an overall winner is always an extremely challenging task. I'm sure we'll see a similar high standard in 2007."

For the first time this year a NAPSA 'wildcard' Finalist will be competing against the six State Finalists for the highly coveted title of Pharmacy Student of the Year at PAC later this year.

There are three stages in the award process:

1. Six State Finalists are selected by each PSA State Branch working closely with their university pharmacy schools to identify a State Finalist.
2. One NAPSA Finalist is identified at the NAPSA Congress Counselling Event and granted 'wildcard' entry to participate with the State Finalists in the National Counselling Event.

As well as the prestige of being named as State or NAPSA Finalist, each Finalist will receive an Alphapharm PAC Travel Prize of an expenses paid trip to PSA's premier education event, Pharmacy Australia Congress (PAC), to be held in Melbourne 24 to 26 August 2007.

3. The State and NAPSA Finalists compete for the celebrated title of PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year at the scenario-based National Counselling Event at PAC.

The National Winner is then announced at the PAC Gala Dinner, receiving the Alphapharm National Travel Prize for pharmacy-specific education.

As the exclusive sponsor of this prestigious award, Alphapharm CEO, John Montgomery said:

"As part of Alphapharm's continuing support for the future of Pharmacy, we look forward to seeing the upcoming leaders of our profession in action at the final counselling session. The PSA Alphapharm Student of the Year Award confirms that the future of the profession is in good hands."

This valuable support from one of Australia's leading pharmaceutical companies, allows PSA to provide the Pharmacy Student of the Year finalists with over \$17,000 in Alphapharm Travel Prizes.

The one NAPSA and six State finalists receive Alphapharm PAC Travel Prizes valued at over \$1,500 each, and the National Finalist will win the Alphapharm National Travel Prize valued at \$6,500.

Katherine Webb, winner of the 2006 PSA Pharmacy Student of the Year, will use her Alphapharm National Travel Prize to attend PAC in Melbourne later this year.

This year's winner can look forward to attending the IPSF conference in Romania in July 2008.

If you're ready to be the 2007 PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year ask your University Course Convenor, contact your local PSA Branch on 1300 369 772, visit www.psa.org.au/psoty or email psoty@psa.org.au.

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