



**Submission from the Australian Psych Society 's Psychology & Ageing Interest Group**

**Nancy Pachana** to: natboards  
Bcc: NatBoards

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ATTENTION: Chair, Psychology Board of Australia

Re: Psychology Board of Australia Consultation Paper

The APS Psychology & Ageing Interest Group has read with interest the Psychology Board of Australia Consultation Paper, and would like to make the following brief submission.

We were delighted to see Clinical Geropsychology as one of the proposed specialties for registered psychologists, with the related specialist title of Specialist Clinical Geropsychologist. This is an important proposal, given that the percentage of adults over age 65 in the Australian population is growing, and that the demand for specialist psychological services with respect to assessment and treatment of this group, particularly in settings such as residential care, is likewise growing. Although only two Universities currently offer this specialist title, it is likely that growing demand for specialists in this area of ageing will spur increasing numbers of degree programs in schools of Psychology within Australia to cater to demand from students and industry stakeholders such as hospitals, the residential aged care sector and the community itself.

In sum, the proposed Specialist Clinical Geropsychologist title has important implications for Australia's present and future ability to give the very best care to its growing population of older adults. We as a group are supportive of this proposal.

Regards,

Nancy Pachana  
Convener,  
Australian Psychological Society's Psychology and Ageing Interest Group

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One doesn't discover new lands without consenting to leave sight of the shore.

-Andre Gide

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