

★ Editorial – Standing in our authority

This Ezine is particularly contemplative. In our Association there is important work going on right now that will shape us for years to come.



There are a couple of big conversations happening in career development in New Zealand.

One is about professionalism. In this Ezine Dr Dale Furbish asks “Is CDANZ an association for career professionals, or an organisation for those who work in the ‘career industry’?”

It would seem that many of us – judging by last year’s survey of members – aspire to be an association of career professionals. To professionalise we need a set of standards: prescribed guidelines that are clear and unambiguous, that describe a competent level of career practice.

We have Ethics; we don’t yet have Standards.

Several of our colleagues have taken on the task of formulating professional standards. Val O’Reilly’s article *Navigating towards a thriving industry* describes how she and the Professionalism Working Party are tackling this big and ambitious project which – when it’s finished – will have produced guidelines that set the tone not only for CDANZ but hopefully for everyone who works in the career industry in New Zealand.

In addition, articles from members Grant Verhoeven and Gabrielle O’Connor describe what it means to be a career professional and the process of pathwaying into professional membership.

A number of articles cluster around the theme of collaboration. Kaye Avery’s *President’s Piece* tallies up the MOUs she has signed with a range of allied associations. Careers New Zealand’s Keith Marshall discusses the merits of working together. Sam Young reminds members of the fabulous resources in the Ministry of Education library. Members Kate Shaw and Jennifer Ross report on recent collaborative events in their respective regions. Our *Branch News* is a comprehensive round-up of activities throughout New Zealand.

We also have the second of a three-part in depth interview with Dave Turner, whose workshops about youth employability left a lasting impression following his speaking tour early in 2015. *Employment Today*, HRINZ’s magazine, has also kindly allowed us to reprint the article that Kaye Avery contributed on the subject of career development support in organisations.

Another conversation has turned up the volume following the Auckland workshop in April 2015 with visiting English professor Tristram Hooley, who has contributed an article *Professionalising careers work: The view from Europe*. In *The Policy Conversation* Caroline Sandford summarises Professor Hooley’s workshop on how career development influences policy, which has sparked further talk about whether New Zealand needs a national career development strategy.

Where will CDANZ be in five years’ time? Or even two years? I like to think we will look back on 2015 as a time in our history when we stood in our authority and spoke our truth on what matters for us in our profession.

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