Media statement

Monday 24 February 2020

Healthier lives, digitally enabled

The [Australasian Institute of Digital Health](#) opens for business today with a call for new Members and Fellows to join the digital health movement.

The new peak body for health informatics and digital health was formed from a merger between the Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA) and the Australasian College of Health Informatics (ACHI) following a membership vote in December.

Institute Chair Michael Walsh said today: "The vision of the Institute "*Healthier lives, digitally enabled*" reflects a new broader focus for digital health."

"We will be bringing together the leaders, innovators and forward thinkers of healthcare to collaborate with citizens, patients and carers across health and community care."

"Healthier lives, digitally enabled centres around our ethos of quality, accessible and equitable person-centred healthcare delivered in a digital world."

He said the Institute would focus around three strategic areas: Workforce development in the digital health age; leading and influencing the progression of digital health through innovation and discovery; citizen and clinical engagement in digital health.

"Our mission is to be a catalyst for collaboration as we develop partnerships, elevate the voice of clinicians and consumers, and build a health workforce to deliver the digital health future."

Institute CEO Dr Louise Schaper encouraged anyone advanced in their digital health or health informatics career to apply for Fellowship of the Institute, the most senior accolade awarded to individuals who have and are making an impact on building a health system for the digital age.

"The formation of the Institute is testament to the people driving digital health and health informatics in the region and the vision they have for a unified future for our digital health movement."

She said all members of HISA and ACHI would be acknowledged by the Institute as foundational members, along with any individuals and organisations who join before 30 April.

Institute Board

The independent Chair of AIDH is healthcare executive and digital health leader Michael Walsh, with Board members drawn from the HISA Board and ACHI Council: Angela Ryan; Dr David Hansen; Peter Williams; Inga Hunter; Dr Jen Bichel-Findlay; Dr Kerryn Butler-Henderson; Leigh Donoghue; Phil Robinson; David Rowlands.

For more information go to: www.digitalhealth.org.au