



MEDIA RELEASE

Media Release Immediate Release

Are MySpace and Facebook no longer helping you extend your social network?

If you're looking for a fresh, new approach to meeting new contacts, then why not consider the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Queensland's fun networking events for young professionals?

IPAA Queensland's Young Professional's group runs events for professionals under 35 years of age in both the public and private sectors.

IPAA Queensland CEO Peter Rumph believes networking should be a vital part of everyone's professional development.

"Our mission is to provide a forum for professional development seminars, social events and network building opportunities," Mr Rumph said.

"These events give members an opportunity to build their social and professional networks and meet other like-minded young professionals usually in a fun and relaxed environment."

"It is a way for young professionals to exchange ideas on trends, practices and innovations in the public sector," he said.

The Young Professionals group operates under the core values of inclusiveness, innovation, creating a friendly environment and fun.

Some of the activities they offer to provide professional development opportunities include: the facilitation of guest speakers in specific areas of interest; network building opportunities including formal and informal social events; mentoring by working closely with Government and private sector organisations and holding forums for individuals to allow them to participate in discussion.

To commence the 'silly season' in style the Young Professionals group recently held an after five cocktail party at the Platform Bar, Grand Central Hotel.

Young professionals from all levels of the public sector gathered for complimentary French Martinis and a cocktail making demonstration while the winner of the annual Ticket to Ride competition was drawn.

Jessica Sharp from Queensland Health, Capital Works and Asset Management, was the lucky winner taking away two 'one on one' coaching sessions with James Purtill, Queensland Public Service Commissioner and Jude Munro, CEO of Brisbane City Council.

"I am looking forward to learning more about the profession from two of its best leaders," Miss Sharp said.

IPAA Queensland is the peak professional body for all levels of the public sector and offers a wide range of professional development services to its members and the wider public sector.

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Media contact:

Eden Platell

Communications Manager

Ph: 07 3228 2825

Fax: 07 3228 2888

Mobile: 0438 188 186

Email: eden.p@qld.ipaa.org.au

The YP Five Pillars

1. **LEARNING:** To build your own knowledge of public sector issues.
2. **INPUT:** To contribute to debate on public sector matters.
3. **CONNECTIONS:** To network.
4. **PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT:** To develop your career.
5. **FUN:** To socialise.