

NNO Meeting – Friday 11 May 2007 Agenda Item 5 – Reports from Member Organisations



Australian Association Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc.

The Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc (AASTN Inc.) is a nursing speciality encompassing ostomy, wound and continence care. The first Stomal Therapy training program was conducted in Melbourne in 1971. Stomal Therapy education is now supported by a national distance education program through the College of Nursing at Graduate Certificate level, and several hospital based programs within Australia. The association first formed in 1971 has a progressive, professional membership. The organisation has gone from strength to strength since its inception and its members are served by -:

- The National Executive and Education and Professional Development Subcommittee. The mission of the subcommittee is to promote high level standards of nursing care through education within the AASTN Inc membership. To provide current relevant educational information and take a leadership role in developing strategies to enhance the exchange of ideas and discussion of issues pertinent to Stomal Therapy Nurses. Nominated Members from this committee attend the NNO meetings. Standards of Practice for Stomal Therapy Nurses were first developed in 1991, rewritten 1994, revised 1997, reviewed 2001, 2003 and revised 2006.
- The Education and Professional Development Subcommittee has developed a credentialing model to meet the specific needs of this speciality. The process was first developed in 1988-89 and meets national and international criteria. The first national credentialing examinations were undertaken in 1999. The model is inclusive of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) portfolios, National Examination, and after three years the Recredentialing Process – through Reflective Journals which demonstrate advanced competencies are met. The information gained from the NNO has been of great value in the development of this process. The following is a summary of the Professional Development Activities of members, **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Credentialing Process**. For 2006/07 there were 36 CPD applications. Overall there were 70 CPD's submitted for certification. There were 7 applicants for the **Credentialing Examination** process in 2006 with 4 successfully completing the process. The **Recredentialing** process produced 4 successful applicants who were eligible for their first recredentialing and 6 successful applicants who were eligible for second time certification. This represents a 7 year commitment by those members. Congratulations to all who participated.
- The Association has a national journal, **The Journal of Stomal Therapy Australia**. The journal began as a national newsletter in 1973 and reached Journal status in 1987. This is a valuable recourse for members with topical articles and complex case studies with four issues each year. Cambridge Media are the publishers of the journal. Web: www.cambridgemedia.com.au
- The Executive are responsible for the promotion, allocation and evaluation of education and research grants. The purpose of the grants is on enhancing the quality of live of people with stomas through addressing professional issues, developing educational programs for peers, consumers and colleagues and the impact on the rehabilitation process of clients.
- Since the March 2006 this committee with the support of our National Executive this committee have entered into a successful and exciting partnership with Convatec Ostomy Care in the development of a standardized national tool for Stomal Therapy Nurses. The database specific to the needs of Stomal Therapy Nurses is intended to collect data which will support and promote best practice and facilitating benchmarking.

- Want to know more about our organisation? We invite you to visit our website www.stomalthrapy.com

Cynthia Smith



International work

WP/SEAR

The ANMC continues to provide secretariat services to the Western Pacific/South East Asian region regulatory authorities (WP/SEAR). Latest information about the activities of WP/SEAR are now available on the ANMC website at: www.anmc.org.au/wpsear/index.php. Included on the site are the country profiles of WP/SEAR members and details of projects planned in the future. In particular, an evaluation of the WP/SEAR nursing competency standards is planned, and a model for mentoring is being developed. Details about the next meeting of WP/SEAR to be held in Singapore in 2008 will also be available on the site as plans progress.

National work

ANMC Position Statement “Verification of Licensure”

The ANMC develops position statements to provide the nursing and midwifery professions with a national regulatory perspective which may assist the development of nursing, midwifery and health care policy. The ANMC has just endorsed a new Position Statement “Verification of Licensure” The development of this position statement was a recommendation from the Chair of the ANMC subsequent to her attendance at the inaugural ICN Observatory meeting in 2005. The statement will give added support to the NMRAs stance on licensure. The position statement is available on the ANMC website.

Free Trade Agreements

The federal government is continuing to negotiate bilateral free trade agreements with a number of countries. Nurses and midwives, as a service industry, are included in these agreements. The ANMC continues to provide information on nursing and midwifery standards to the federal government as a part of their consultations.

Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Nurses and Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Midwives in Australia

Phase one of the project which involved the research, review and development of the Codes was completed by the team of consultants from James Cook University and RMIT in late February. The ANMC will soon commence another round of consultation to gain further input from the NMRAs, peak nursing and midwifery organisations and the nursing and midwifery professions to ensure that the Codes documents are simple to understand and clearly illustrate the linkages between the various elements of the professional practice framework for nurses and midwives. This will in turn enhance the relevance of the documents to practitioners. It is anticipated that the final Codes will be completed in the latter part of 2007.

ANMC National Guidelines on Professional Boundaries Project

One of the key objectives of the ANMC for 2007 is the development of national guidelines on professional boundaries. The national guidelines will be based on the guidelines originally developed for use in NSW. The project is now in its early stages of development. The ANMC is fortunate to have engaged the services of Professor Margaret McMillan, Deputy Head, Faculty of Health, Newcastle University as the consultant for the project. Professor McMillan was the lead investigator on the original project to develop the guidelines for NSW.

Review of the ANMC Position Statements and Guidelines

Council has recently endorsed the revised position statement 'Inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Health and Cultural issues in Courses Leading to Registration or Enrolment'. Work continues on the updating of other position statements. As part of the consultation process involved in the revision of position statements and guidelines, the ANMC always welcomes comments and feedback from nurses and midwives. The ANMC website provides further information about how to provide feedback at http://www.anmc.org.au/research_policy/position_statements.php

National Framework for Decision Making by Nurses and Midwives about Scopes of Practice (National DMF)

Focus groups with clinicians have been held in March as part of the final round of consultation for this project. Generally, feedback from participants has been positive about the revised draft. Some minor changes are currently being undertaken. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in mid 2007.

Development of a National Framework for the Accreditation of Nursing and Midwifery Courses leading to Initial Registration and Enrolment within Australia

The Accreditation Framework and report has been approved and accepted by Council. As part of the normal process, the Framework is now in the process of being endorsed by each NMRA. Once this has been achieved, the framework will be implemented nationally, with a full review and evaluation undertaken in approximately 12 months.

National Registration and Accreditation Schemes

The Council of Australian Governments, through the Health Working Group, is continuing to consult on the development of the models for national registration and accreditation. Throughout the process the ANMC has been liaising with the members of the Australian Peak Nursing Forum (ANMC, RCNA, ANF, CDNM, and CATSIN) and ACM to ensure the collective voice of nursing and midwifery is heard and to maximise opportunities for leadership. In early February the APNF and ACM held a workshop to develop a consensus on key question related the schemes. This resulted in a joint submission to the Health Working Group. A copy of the submission is available on the ANMC website at www.anmc.org.au.

Christine Ashley-Coe





- The Executive held a planning day in April 07. Discussions included Nurse Practitioner, marketing and governance issues.
- ASHNA Inc membership continues to average around 160 members, including members in the UK.
- There is a new look website being developed. www.ashna.org.au
- ASHNA Inc has been represented on National Sexual Health Strategy meetings, review of the Sydney Hospital Venereology course.

Jo Perks

AWHNA Inc;

The two day Professional Update for AWHNA Inc. was held in 2007. This was well supported, with over forty members, as well as nurses from other disciplines, attending. Guest speakers included Dr. Edith Weisberg, Assoc. Professor Rod Baber and Dr. Annabell Farnsworth.

This was also an opportunity to launch the AWHNA Inc. Professional Portfolio, a formal process of recording nurses' professional development activities.

During our AGM – our new executive was elected.

President; Mignon Aistrope. Vice- President; Rose Cole. Secretary; Jacqueline Soccio. Assistant Secretary; Helen Wilmore. Treasurer; Jeanette Holloway.

An AWHNA Inc. Sub-branch has been formed in South Australia. Our newly elected Sub-branch Liaison Officer is Linda Oliver.

A representative from the AWHNA attended the Cervical Screening NSW Workshop to review workforce & recruitment issues.

Mignon Aistrope
