

CoNNO Meeting – Friday 8 October 2010  
Agenda Item 4 - Minutes of the previous meeting, Friday 21 May 2010

**1. Welcome**

Members were welcomed to the meeting by Kim Ryan, Chair of the Coalition of National Nursing Organisations (CoNNO) Council.

**2. Attendance**

Sherynne Warner	Australasian Hepatology Association
Rani Govender	Australasian Rehabilitation Nurses Association
Clare Cleave	Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nurses
Cecelia Randles	Australian Association of Maternal Child & Family Health Nurses
Toni Ormston	Australian Association of Maternal Child & Family Health Nurses
Wendy Sansom	Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc
Sue Scott	Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses
Tracey Aylen	Australian Diabetes Educators Association
Leigh Pretty	Australian Nurses for Continence
Jacqui Guy	Australian Nurse Teachers Society
Di Kidgell	Australian Nursing & Midwifery Council
Elizabeth Foley	Australian Nursing Federation
Amanda Wylie	Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association
Rose Cole	Australian Women's Health Nurse Association
Jan Rice	Australian Wound Management Association
Nicole Kinnane	Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Julianne Bryce	CoNNO Secretariat & Australian Nursing Federation
Kim Ryan	CoNNO Chair & Australian College of Mental Health Nurses
Belinda Caldwell	CoNNO Council & Australian Practice Nurses Association
Lynn Rapley	CoNNO Council & Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia
Dianne Crellin	College of Emergency Nurses Australia
Margaret Tabone	Flight Nurses Australia
Maryanne Craker	National Enrolled Nurse Association of Australia
Jo Foster	Nursing Informatics Australia
Cathie Pigott	Palliative Care Nurses Australia
Regina McDonald	Psychogeriatric Nurses Association Australia
Marg McLeod	Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Sandra Campbell	Renal Society of Australia
Vanessa Goss	Department of Health and Ageing
Mark Smith	Royal District Nursing Service
Lisa Fitzpatrick	ANF Victorian Branch
Paul Gilbert	ANF Victorian Branch
Pip Carew	ANF Victorian Branch
Hon Jim McGinty	Health Workforce Australia
Mark Cormack	Health Workforce Australia
Anne Morrison	Nursing & Midwifery Board of Australia

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## 2.1 Apologies

Rosemary Bryant	Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer
Belinda Moyes	Australia and New Zealand Council of Chief Nurses
Anne Copeland	Nursing & Midwifery Board of Australia
Tracey Osmond	CoNNO Deputy Chair & The College of Nursing
Amanda Rischbieth	CoNNO Council & Australian College of Critical Care Nurses
Helen Gosby	CoNNO Council & Australian College of Nurse Practitioners
Robyn Coulthard	CoNNO Council & Congress of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Nurses
Lyn Hinspeter	CoNNO Council & CRAN <i>plus</i>
Geraldine Lee	Australasian Cardiovascular Nurses College
Sharon Eriksson	Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association
Shelley Reid	Australian College of Neonatal Nurses
Vicky Jackson	Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Anne Van Loon	Australian Faith Community Nurses Association
Susanna Warner	Australian Faith Community Nurses Association
Jenny Keller	Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association
Jo Perks	Australian Sexual Health & HIV Nurses Association
Brad Whitton	Australian Sexual Health & HIV Nurses Association
Linda Oliver	Australian Women's Health Nurses Association
Mei Krishnasamy	Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Wendy Cross	Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery
Tracey Nicholls	Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group
Debra Cerasa	Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Tod Adams	Thoracic Society of Australia

## 3. Confirmation of agenda

### 4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 9 October 2009

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 October 2009 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 5. Business arising from the previous meeting

List of action items from the previous meeting have been addressed.

### 6. Report by Mark Cormack, Chief Executive Officer and Hon Jim McGinty, Chair of Health Workforce Australia

Health Workforce Australia has a unique independent role, it deals with workforce issues across all of the health professions. It has a one billion dollar funding budget over 5 years with the majority of funding from the federal government. A new board was appointed in February 2010, which reports to all Health Ministers.

Health Workforce Australia has 5 major functions:

- Workforce planning – demand and supply modelling and planning, projections for future needs, aware that the issues for nursing in particular the nursing shortage will be the biggest single problem;

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- Clinical training subsidies – information sessions in each state with the emphasis on growth. 145 million dollars per year going into clinical training as well as incentives to provide training in non traditional settings such as aged care;
- Overseas workforce issues;
- Workplace reform – will drive the debate on reform, with expanded scope of practice and changing work descriptions. Will be looking to the UK and US for initiatives. Will not be addressing industrial issues;
- Provide advice regarding workforce directions to government.

There was extensive discussion with a number of key issues outlined below:

- Clinical training funding to benefit domestic growth as well as overseas students;
- Clinical training funding is targeted at university level and therefore does not include the VET sector education level. This excludes funding for the enrolled nurse. Assurance was given that this will be on the HWA longer term agenda;
- Interprofessional education funding is not specified in the current round but will be included in next phase;
- Although it is important to grow the nursing workforce there is currently difficulty providing positions for graduate nurses. Strategies need to be developed to address this;
- There is a need to include community health in workforce planning;
- Concerns regarding educating people for specific positions when positions are not available;
- Concerns with overseas trained workers with respect to skills, language and communication.

Health Workforce Australia would like to continue robust conversation with nurses and would like the opportunity to come back and give an update to conno members.

[www.hwa.gov.au](http://www.hwa.gov.au)

*Action: Invite HWA to the CoNNO general meeting in October in Sydney.*

## **7. Report by Anne Morrison, Executive Officer of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia**

Nursing and Midwifery State Boards are closing on 30 June 2010. The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) held its first meeting in September 2009. The Board meets monthly, has 12 members whom are current members of the State Boards. They have been appointed for a three year term. Current State Boards will continue as State Committees, which is quite a different function. Receipt and management of complaints will be known as notifications and complaints about conduct or health. Last month the Health Ministers approved the assignment of a restructured Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) as the independent accrediting body from 1 July 2010. This new body will have a new constitution, new membership and the appointment of a new CEO. A letter has gone out to all registrants informing them about the National Scheme and to test the integrity of data transfer to the national database. National Registration Standards have been approved and are available on the NMBA website. The NMBA consulted on two new guidelines and existing ANMC codes and guidelines. A communiqué is posted after each NMBA meeting and there are a number of FAQ sheets available on the website.

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A Call Centre has been established which received more than 15,000 calls in the first 3 weeks (about 700-1000 calls per day). The National Scheme recognises midwives as a separate profession and there is a separate register for midwives. Student registration will be introduced in 2011. This will be an NMBA database. There are a number of working groups of the NMBA which include policy, accreditation, finance and governance. Current projects include eligible midwives (category to access PBS & MBS) and nurse practitioners (framework for assessment of applications). There is funding for project officers to progress this work.

There was extensive discussion of issues relating to endorsement and recognition of qualification and the role of the regulator under the National Law.

[www.nmba.gov.au](http://www.nmba.gov.au)

## 8. Council report

- Chair report

Launch of new CoNNO logo.

New website is coming, member pages information to be updated.

New membership application received by APNS.

*Action: Email members information once website is launched.*

- Secretariat report – see attached.
- Budget and funding – see secretariat report.
- Council elections – 5 positions

*Action: Email members information on upcoming council elections for five positions.*

- Other business - National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA)

NEHTA has extended an invitation to any interested parties from CoNNO to visit the Model Healthcare Community. The Model Healthcare Community demonstrates Release One of Australia's future Healthcare Identifiers (HI) Service. The HI Service is a joint project between NEHTA and Medicare Australia that will be an enabler for individual electronic health records. The facility is located at the Royal College of General Practitioners (RACGP) in South Melbourne.

NEHTA has requested expressions of interest for involvement in their project to develop terminology for the Australian context.

*Action: Resend email invitation from NEHTA to CoNNO members.*

## 9. Member reports

Renal Society of Australasia – see written report.

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Australian Nurse Teachers Society – Revision of the Nurse Teacher Competency Standards completed. Changed from hard copy bulletin to online; revised the website; developing a journal publication with Elsevier and seeking support with online payments; marketing of competency standards and new journal publication. The Nurse Education Conference was held in Sydney in April and the next conference is in New Zealand next year.

Flight Nurses Australia – Co-joint conference to be held in New Zealand; review of corporate governance document; difficulty in accessing clinical placements to ensure recency of practice (mostly due to arrangements with hospitals no longer being honoured).

Royal College of Nursing Australia – first Primary Health Care Conference held in Adelaide last year and now preparing for next conference later this year; annual Chapter membership meetings currently being held; conducted Nursing Expo's across country; preparing for AGM; National Nursing Summit to be held next week; complimentary student memberships being offered to first and second year students; and ongoing policy work.

Cancer Nurses Society of Australia – new chair and new members to national executive have been appointed; review of national policy documents by NHMRC & ACSQHC; seeking access to nationwide research activities; preparing for the 13<sup>th</sup> Winter Congress to be held in Perth; exploring opportunities to work with other nursing organisations on conferences; supporting nurses in rural & remote areas; looking at strategies to sustain and grow CNSA membership.

Psychogeriatric Nurses Association Australia – has been established 14 years with members in aged care and mental health; annual conference and dinner to be held in Wollongong in October. The Association is a small group struggling to continue. Membership growth is difficult and seeking opportunities to come together with other organisations. Participate in ACMHN forums where possible. Keen to develop professional standards for practice.

Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses – E-journal was launched in November 2009; membership growth to 630 members; use ListServ as network for members and also as a mechanism to support members with clinical practice questions and reviewing position statements.

Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia – has developed clinical competencies; developed new DVD for the placement of feeding tubes; working with medical colleagues to conduct training in Fiji for endoscopic interventions; membership now stands at 1000 members; University of Queensland conducts a post graduate qualification course in Gastroenterology Nursing; training of nurse endoscopists commencing in Australia; seeking strategies to assist members to write for publication.

Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association – see written report. First time in attendance at CoNNO; seeking advice to establish a formal governance structure; national newsletter redesigned - would like to develop this into an online document; developing draft professional competency standards and plan to seek feedback on these from CoNNO members.

*Action: Email members the AONA draft competency standards for feedback.*

Nursing Informatics Australia – see written report. Working with NEHTA on the e-health agenda and the health identifiers module; working on health informatics education towards a national curriculum, and also working towards nationally understood terminology; Jo is currently undertaking the nursing informatics competency standards project with the ANF; organising NIA conference and Health Informatics Conference for later in year.

Australian Diabetes Educators Association – governance training undertaken using CoNNO funding; redevelopment of website; some Diabetes Educators now have Medicare provider numbers; national conference to be held in Sydney.

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Australian Wound Management Association – national conference held in Perth in March with 780 attendees; membership now at 2000 members, including 40 podiatrists and 10 doctors; AWMA is a federated group but has decided there is a need for a national voice; moving towards credentialing for members; promoting ‘elephant in the room’ campaign on wound care; newly appointed President is Bill McGuinness.

Australian Nurses for Continence – has now set up EFT payment for members; introduction of new scheme for continence products; seeking advice from CoNNO members on website development and strategies for profiling the organisation.

Australian Practice Nurses Association – see written report. Moved into new offices in Carlton, Melbourne; development of new website with online learning portal; CPE endorsement program launched; through externally funded project now have a web portal on clinical policies and procedures for general practice nurses; second national conference was held on Gold Coast in April which included the launch of the first general practice nursing text book; conducted media training; looking to develop a credentialing program for members.

Australasian Rehabilitation Nurses Association – has been running for 21 years; had the highest membership in 2009; national conference to be held in Wollongong in October.

College of Emergency Nursing Australasia – change of governance board; new constitution; new website; working on representation with equivalent medical association; involved with NICS and NHMRC on a number of projects; liaison with ACCCN on a trauma nursing program; monitoring issues around the Federal Government’s introduction of a four hour rule for waiting times in emergency departments.

Australian Women’s Health Nurse Association – see written report. Developed advance professional practice standards which will be launched at the national conference this year; developed a workbook for new nurses, and a professional portfolio; need funding for health education, in particular for rural areas; The College of Nursing is developing a Graduate Certificate in Primary Health (offering a women’s health stream).

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Council – conducted workshops nationally on the Professional Practice Framework (PPF); has recently been appointed the independent accrediting body; new board elected (will meet in June) and new constitution has been approved; Decision making framework, competencies, guidelines and policies have been handed over to new Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) in preparation for the 1 July 2010 commencement of national registration; Re-entry to nursing courses national accreditation standards being sent to the NMBA for consultation.

National Enrolled Nurse Association of Australia – see written report. Conference to be held in Hobart in October; uniformity of medication administration courses with national accreditation; New Zealand has just reinstated the enrolled nurse role.

Palliative Care Nurses Australia – see written report. Conference to be held in Brisbane in August; preparing for national pain summit; drafted a national pain management strategy.

Australasian Hepatology Association – working on governance standards, policies and procedures using CoNNO resources; summit was held in April; developing working parties, and affiliations with key organisations.

Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing – see written report. Joint seminars held with other organisations - MINA & AWMA; conference to be held on the Gold Coast in October; currently have 190 members; quarterly newsletter; seeking ideas from CoNNO members on website development.

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Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses – see written report. Conducted professional education programs and meetings; reviewing policies and pamphlets; journal is now online; have 600 members, with 35 credentialed members; promoting joint conference next year in Cairns (with medical colleagues) and the World Council in Adelaide 2012.

Australian Association of Maternal Child & Family Health Nurses – see written report. Organisation structure is that each State has their own association, then each have two representatives on a national Board; preparing for national conference in May 2011 on the Gold Coast; members are concerned about introduction of national registration (1 July) as there will not be an endorsement of maternal and child health qualifications on the register; also concerns as to the impact of Federal Government health reforms relating to primary health care; seeking advice on an online journal.

Australian College of Mental Health Nurses – first e-bulletin launched and members and other interested parties can subscribe online; credentialing process going well; members concerned regarding endorsement as mental health nurses no longer appearing on register as from 1 July 2010.

Australian Nursing Federation – see written report.

#### **10. National discussion topics**

- Federal budget overview by Elizabeth Foley – see attached.
- New practice nurse funding initiative by Belinda Caldwell – report available on website
- Green Health Alliance invitation – see attached.

#### **11. Next meeting**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010 - College of Nursing, 14 Railway Parade, Burwood. NSW.

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