

## **CoNNO Meeting – Friday 9 October 2009**

### **Agenda Item 9 – Member Reports**

List of member reports:

Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association  
Australian & New Zealand Society of Vascular Nurses  
Australian Association of Maternal Child and Family Health Nursing  
Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses  
Australian College of Neonatal Nurses  
Australian College of Operating Room Nurses  
Australian Faith Community Nurses Association  
Australian Nurse Teachers Society  
Australian Nursing Federation  
Australian Practice Nurses Association  
Australian Women's Health Nurse Association  
Australian Wound Management Association  
Community Nurse Audiometrists Association  
*CRANApus*  
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia  
Flight Nurses Australia  
Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia  
Nursing Informatics Australia  
Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group  
Palliative Care Nurses Australia  
Psychogeriatric Nurses Association Australia  
Renal Society of Australasia  
Royal College of Nursing Australia

## **Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

1. 115 financial members. There is a membership drive in progress.
2. Busy executive – we are all volunteers
3. Agreements with ASHM and ASHHNA is represented on all major sexual health and HIV conferences
4. 2 newsletters per year – July 09 focus on aboriginal health issues
5. Nurses prize at Australasian Sexual Health Conference in Brisbane September 09 won by Cathy Watson from the Royal Womens Hospital in Melbourne.
6. Nurses from ASHHNA are presenting at the upcoming Nurse Practitioner conference to be held in Sydney.
7. The AGM will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

1. Membership
2. Survey monkey

Jo Perks

## **Australian & New Zealand Society of Vascular Nurses**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

Web site launch

Co-joint conference with Surgeons and Ultrasonographers October 2009 with 112 nursing delegates

Representative on AWMA working party on venous leg ulceration

Links with AWMA for meetings at state level and potentially at National level

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Ideas for development and expansion of group

Increase profile of small specialist group

Formalise links to related organisations

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Specialty courses and credentialling

Sue Monaro

## Australian Association Maternal Child and Family Health Nursing

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- 1) Media release in refuting AMA media claim of "Dumbing Down" of services provided by Maternal child and Family health nurses in relation to "Healthy Kids" Check. As part of the wider group of nurses, we were outraged that AMA would resort to turf war tactics and to denigrate the skills of a body of nurses who have studied at tertiary level to provide a particular set of expertise to assist optimal health outcomes families with young children.
- 2) The Association Education sub-committee has been established to map the national maternal child and family health education. This is still early days for this sub-committee but more can be expected.
- 3) Continue to have representation on The Beyond Blue Clinical Guidelines Expert Advisory Group. The report is due out next year and because of confidentiality clause, there is little to report.
- 4) Constitution guidelines have been updated and are to be presented at the AGM this month. Incorporated in the constitution are conference guidelines which will assist our nursing body to have tighter control with event organisers.
- 5) The Australian Association of Maternal, Child and Family Health Nurses (AAMCHFN) partnering an application to the Australian Research Council (ARC) for funding to undertake a national three year study. The research group are from University of Western Sydney, Charles Darwin University, UTS, UNSW, University of Western Sydney and University of Sydney. The study is entitled 'Investigating the Feasibility of Implementing a National Approach to Child and Family Health Services'. A national approach is required to establish a consistent and sustainable approach to providing child and family health services across Australia

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

With reference to the objective Influence and contribute to public discussion on health policy

The question is asked how can we do this if we are not media savvy?

On reflection, it seems that CoNNO needs to consider if media liaison is part of its role. Is this something with which Conno can support the ANF? Obviously, training of a media person is essential. With the appropriate skill base, nursing would be in a better position to respond to media attacks such as our professional group experienced from the AMA.

The AMA had 17 media releases for the month of September. How should nursing respond?

Do we need to be working on preparing a range of position statements, so they are easily adapted as relevant issues arise? Perhaps some of these could have a generic core, and then specialist areas could build on those.

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- 1) To publically thank ANF Federal office for alerting us to the press release and for its assistance with the final details of the media release.
- 2) Help in giving us e.g. key points to work on and develop when we write detailed responses to reports etc such as the national health reform report and other docs that we need to respond more strongly to, if we are to influence national policy.
- 3). Ways to get funding for a PT project officer /secretariat, even if only for a year, so we could do some intense work on policy responses and on position statements, (as above) so we have those to use in response also.

Elizabeth Ruschena

CoNNO

## Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Significant work has been undertaken with the Australian College of Neonatal Nurses and the Neonatal Nurses College of Aotearoa in the development of an electronic Journal. The November Issue of the Neonatal, Paediatric and Child Health Journal will be electronic from the November 2009 issue. This will be available via the member only section of each organization website.

Bi-monthly newsletters are now available on the website

Membership as at 30<sup>th</sup> August was 550 members

An assessment against the CoNNO governance standards has been completed and a plan to ensure the ACCYPN meets the standards will be developed.

Three position statements have been reviewed and will soon be published on the public website.

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

#### This issue is the same as the May 2009 Report

1. Currently the data within the nursing workforce survey's does not reflect sub specialties of a specialty area. Therefore workforce planning within those areas is not supported by any national data set.. The Workforce Survey identifies the principal role of the nurse and Family and Child Health are one role. What is not there is if you work in critical care for example what percentage of nurses work with children and young people. What is being recommended is an additional question that asks "What is the primary population you provide services to":
  - Children and Young People
  - Adults
  - Aged Population
  - Whole of life population.

The addition of this question would allow analysis of the workforce subspecialties in relation to Children and Young People's health care.

Chairman of the Board of Directors

## **Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

ACNN ended the financial year with 775 members, an increase from 2008.

Planning for the May 2010 annual conference in Canberra is progressing well.

A face to face executive council meeting, held biannually in addition to teleconferences, will be in Sydney on Sunday 25 October. An important item for discussion is the idea of centralising the state association members of ACNN into one body, as some states are struggling to attract new members as others retire, to fill executive positions. However, this proposal will require extensive consultation and debate with members.

ACNN continues to review policies and guidelines.

The journal *Neonatal, Paediatric and Child Health Nursing*, of which ACNN is part owner, will be moving to an e-journal format from the next issue (November). The Neonatal Nurses College Aotearoa has joined the partnership of owners, providing a formal link between ACNN and our New Zealand peers.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Setting up an education accreditation service.

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Shelley Reid

## **Australian College of Operating Room Nurses (ACORN)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

ACORN has been involved in the process and review of implementing a Surgical Safety Checklist that has been designed by the Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) and other industry colleagues. This checklist was launched on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in Canberra by Nicola Roxon, Federal Minister for Health. ACORN are proud to have been part of this new initiative and to be part of the formulised process.

ACORN is currently working towards its bi annual conference that will be held in Perth May 19-22 2009.

ACORN standards for 2010 are under review at this time

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Promotion of conference details to interested parties

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Not at this time

Vicky Jackson

## Australian Faith Community Nurses Association Inc.

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

1. **Standards of Practice:** Continuing to work on updating to correlate with ANMC competencies
2. **Annual General Meeting & Conference day:** successful professional development day and new board elected
3. **New AFCNA promotional material developed:** Completed a series of information booklets "Introduction to Faith Community Nursing", "Introduction to Parish Nursing", "Introduction to Health Ministry" and tailored information packages with fliers and DVD are available from AFCNA website).
4. **AFCNA Website:** Updated and improved the website [www.afnca.org.au](http://www.afnca.org.au). We are commencing a member's only page to provide support and resources for FCNs in the role.
5. **Introduction to FCN Course** conducted by *Lighthouse Interchurch Health Ministries* 18-20 November 2009 at The Nurses Memorial, St. Kilda Rd. Melbourne.
6. **New Professional Development opportunity for FCNs:** Allocation of \$500 annually from the AFCNA Education fund commences 2010 for professional development for the FCN role.
7. **Commencement of New National Mentor role:** The nurse appointed is Heather Marchant and she will provide support and mentoring for FCNs commencing this role nationally.

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

1. **Providing avenues for AFCNA to promote the FCN role** with health care services especially those from a faith base, community agencies, faith communities, and in various Australian publications.
2. **Professional development support:** FCNs seem to be picking up many clients with mental health needs, addictions, and frail and lonely aged and carers needing support. We would value networking with other groups to see how we can work together more effectively to meet the needs of these populations. We would like to provide some professional development opportunities for AFCNA members in these areas to improve their practice and ensure good referral and best clinical practises are occurring.

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

1. **What/Who Decides What is a Specialty Nursing Practice?** We would like to know how various groups are recognised as "specialties" within Nursing. Parish Nursing or Faith Community Nursing / Pastoral Nursing is a recognised specialty in the USA. Is there a process to obtain this recognition in Australia? If so, what might that be?
2. **AFCNA would like to thank ANF and CoNNO members** for the ability to share in this forum and have a voice in the future of Nursing in Australia. We value this opportunity immensely.

**Anne van Loon RN PhD**  
Director of Development  
Australian Faith Community Nurses Association Inc.  
PO Box 2701  
Kent Town SA 5071  
[www.afcna.org.au](http://www.afcna.org.au)



## **The Australian Nurse Teachers Society (ANTS)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Establishing a new branch in South Australia
- Finalised review of constitution especially in regard to state branches
- The Research Team has finalised analysis of the data concerning review of the Nurse Teacher Competencies and are presenting the draft competencies at the Australasian Nurse Educators Conference in Christchurch late September.
- ANTS Website has been reviewed. We plan to use Discussion Board on our website for first time to obtain feedback regarding the new draft competencies.
- Investigating idea of an Australian electronic journal of nursing education
- In partnership with Pearson Publications offering a Nurse Educator Award of \$3000
- Next Conference: International Nurse Education Conference NETNEP April 11-14, 2010 see <http://www.netnep-conference.elsevier.com/>

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

- Could CoNNO please send out our draft competencies to all CoNNO members for feedback?

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

- Developing policy for publication of competencies?

Jacqui Guy  
President

## Australian Nursing Federation

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

#### Primary Health Care Project

The ANF has been able to disseminate information on the *Primary Health Care in Australia: a nursing and midwifery consensus view* paper by speaking at several national conferences during the year. The consensus view has been favourably received as has the fact that nursing and midwifery groups were able to collaborate on such an important issue.

Peak nursing, midwifery, medical and consumer groups met on 16 June 2009 for a primary health care roundtable at Parliament House, Canberra to discuss informing policy to guide health reform towards better health outcomes for the Australian community. Ged was able to give an overview of the *Primary Health Care in Australia: a nursing and midwifery consensus view* paper to this group, which was followed by group discussion on the gaps and barriers to primary health care in Australia, what's working, and a plan for the way forward on the identified issues and models. Following the roundtable, a joint communiqué was released which is available in the news section of the ANF Federal Office website at [www.anf.org.au](http://www.anf.org.au).

Following on from the success of the June roundtable, the Primary Health Care Working Group hosted a smaller working group meeting at Parliament House to discuss the next steps and to progress the work to date on key areas of agreement. The August working group meeting was attended by the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, the Honourable Nicola Roxon MP.

#### IT Competency Standards Project

As reported in the May 2009 update to CONNO the ANF, with Australian Government funds, has been undertaking a national project to develop, validate and publish Informatics Competency Standards for the nursing profession in Australia. A successful on-line survey was conducted in the first half of the year which has provided valuable information for the development of the standards. Some telephone focus groups were held to discuss participants' opinions and experiences about nursing informatics, to test some of the messages identified in the survey and to expand on and clarify some of the issues raised. Draft competency standards are being developed and will be circulated to stakeholders for comment and feedback. If you're interested in receiving a copy of the draft competency standards please register your interest by emailing the ANF at [itproject@anf.org.au](mailto:itproject@anf.org.au). Due to unforeseen circumstances the project will not be completed until later in the year.

#### Aged Care Campaign - 'Because We Care'

The ANF's national aged care campaign 'Because We Care', which was launched earlier this year, received a major boost to its media exposure when Ged delivered the National Press Club Address on 16 September. The address, an important part of the campaign, provided compelling evidence as to why the Government must increase its investment in the aged care sector.

Essentially the message was that funding must be included in the 2010 budget for the aged care sector. With the address being televised live across Australia, the ANF has received messages of support from members and other nurses and midwives who joined in the telecast. I encourage CONNO members to go to the ANF website: [www.becausewecare.org.au](http://www.becausewecare.org.au) to see how you can get involved and thereby show support for your colleagues working in the aged care sector.

## Australian Practice Nurses Association

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Strategic Planning for 2010-2015 incorporating our response to projected health reform agenda
- Inaugural conference – attended by 330
- Moving office into own premises
- Completed development of a DoHA funded Practice Nurse Client Satisfaction Data Collection tool
- Rolling out last round of PN Scholarships program before being consolidated into a national administrator with other nursing and allied health scholarships
- Have received all nominations for APNA Best Practice Awards and in process of judging before an awards night in late November
- Have submitted proposal for DoHA funding for development of a professional development support package for practice nurses including CPD program, support and development of a career path – looks positive but not final yet.
- Also submitted a proposal to Vic Govt for funding for a collaborative web-based portal for sharing clinical policies and procedures – shortlisted down from 220 to 26 but still waiting on that as well! Partnered with Nursing Informatics Association and ANF
- Asked to provide a GP/NP combo rep for NP Advisory Group for NP legislation. Working on examples of NP role in general practice and possible collaborative examples. Has been a flurry of negative medical media to manage (or ignore).
- Moving to new website and CRM –major drama

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

- If we get the funding described above, we will be looking rapidly for good short-term admin and nursing staff – so if anyone knows of anyone, appreciate sending them my way.
- Unsure if anyone is interested in partnering with us on our online learning college. We have it up and running but the model we use is that the third party company which does all the back end stuff, also does the back end stuff for a number of other organisations. They are looking to develop more clinical material in addition to what we already have and have asked us to partner with them in development. They have recently signed on a couple of huge health/hospital regions and need learning rapidly. We are comfortable developing content for out of the hospital settings related to general practice and some generic content, but there is an opportunity for some other more specialty orgs to get access to an online learning college, develop content and access already developed content. Difficult to explain but if anyone interested, call me (Belinda Caldwell).

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Specialty CPD programs/credentialling and national registration – what is happening and what will be required to get CPD program recognised as suitable.

Belinda Caldwell

## **Australian Womens Health Nurse Association Inc.**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Submitting completed document for Advanced Practice Standards (formerly National Competencies) to the RCNA for endorsement.
- WH Professional Portfolio reviewed and revised second edition-a timely document for National Registration, in July 2010.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Womens Health Conference 18-21 May 2010 Hobart early registration closes on 1 November 2009. Six WHN's have been successful in having papers and posters accepted for this conference. Priority areas include Womens Economic Health and Wellbeing, Womens Mental Health and Wellbeing, Preventing Violence Against Women, Womens Sexual and Reproductive Health and Improving Womens Access to Publicly Funded and Financially Accessible Health Services.
- Governance-WH Position Paper Academic review level for distribution November 09
- Sub-Branch membership expanding, general membership attracting nurses from a diverse clinical area.
- Short Film Committee set up to develop and produce a short film showcasing Womens Health Nurses to be entered into the NSW Nurses Association Short Film Festival early in 2010. We anticipate winning \$5000.00 for our efforts.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Support and acknowledgment for succession planning for Womens Health Nurses  
Guidance with Governance and successful Marketing strategies

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Linda Oliver

## **Australian Wound Management Association**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

1. Position document on wound infection, identification and management
2. Position statement on minimum dressings recommended to be supplied by facility for Commonwealth funded Aged Care Facilities
3. NHMRC approval for the development of Clinical Practice guidelines for venous leg ulcer prevention and management
4. Minimum teaching framework for diabetic foot wounds, wounds debridement and oncology wounds ( to be posted on website by March 2010)
5. Preparation for the National Conference Perth 2010 well underway (see website for more details [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au))

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

We continue to campaign to lobby government to assist with modern dressings for those in need. There is an inequality within the country where the territories supply dressings to clients and in Victoria those in community care must purchase their own. No states have the same system!! Our claim is—"if you have a stomach ulcer you will be prescribed subsidised medications so why not receive some sort of assistance for dressings for the leg or pressure or other skin ulcer".

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Currently the profile of wounds is very, very low, yet wounds cover every spectrum of the health care system, from neonates to the very elderly, medical, surgical and rehab. Why is the emphasis on good wound understanding and management —particularly pressure injury— not taught in greater depth within health professionals training? CoNNO members may be able to assist with the movement of this training into the curriculum.

Jan Rice

## **Community Nurse Audiometrists Assoc Inc**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Change of executive in October 2008
- Development of a document review register to ensure that all relevant organisational documentation is reviewed in a timely manner (eg: terms of reference, clinical practice guidelines, clinical competency standards, etc).
- Lobbied for, and successfully sourced funding support for redevelopment of Audiometry Nursing course
- Redevelopment of Audiometry Nursing course due to expiry of accreditation of previous course, and the need to offer the course from an environment where it would gain greater exposure to nurses.
- Support from and agreement with The College of Nursing to offer the redeveloped Audiometry Nursing course commencing 2010. This is the only Audiometry Nursing course available in Australia, and is endorsed and supported by NSW Health.
- Planning for annual CNAA Inc conference at Queanbeyan in October 2009.
- Provision of financial support via our education fund for members seeking to complete the Cert IV in Training and Assessment

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

- Assistance with ensuring that the importance of provision of hearing services via nurse audiometry clinics is recognised throughout the public health system
- Ideas to increase membership of our organisation across the country
- Assistance in raising the profile of Nurse Audiometrists – what we do, and who we are.

Jan Wright  
President  
CNAA Inc

## **CRAN*Aplus***

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

With the opening of our second office in Adelaide the past months have been busy time for CRAN*Aplus* staff. With two offices our FLEC programs and business Manager has been relocated to the Adelaide. While the Secretariat & BSS (Bush Support Service) have remained in the Alice Springs. Both these officers would love to see and nurse, midwife or health professional who might be interested in working in rural or remote popping for chat, a cupper and to find out how CRAN*Aplus* can help support you while you are working in Rural & Remote.

With our 27<sup>th</sup>.Conference from the 14 – 17<sup>th</sup>. Oct in Alice Springs both offices are abuzz as the final details for Conference are put together. Conference this year is around the theme “Remote Health – Unveiling the Mystery” Speakers on a wide range of topics related to the theme will present at Conference, Conference will also see the official launch of our new name CRAN*Aplus*. CRAN*Aplus*’ AGM will also be held during the conference.

CRAN*Aplus* continues to work for the improvement of remote health, and in support of remote health professionals, the keeps staff busy through out the year whether it is representation @ meetings or conferences, running and expanding our various support net works or just being a listing ear for a remote health professional CRAN*Aplus* is always ready to help those working and living in remote areas of Australia and its Territories.

Lyn Hinspeter  
Sec. CRAN*Aplus*

## Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia (Inc)

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Representation on Hep C Council NSW
- Representation Nursing Advisory Council NSW
- Annual Conference for members and potential members  
Held in June 2009 on the Gold Coast with a total of 213 delegates in attendance
- Planning for the 2010 Conference also to be held on the Gold Coast  
This years theme is: "Drugs and Alcohol are every Nurses business"
- The development of the DANA Competencies Reference group. This is a major project to influence the development of the curriculum for Drug and Alcohol Nursing with core competencies and standards. We are working collaboratively across Australian states, in New Zealand and at national levels engaging local and national working groups (see attachment of Terms of reference)
- We are seeking to develop affiliations and partnerships with other nursing organisations with the aim of offering reciprocal benefits to our professional development calender.....

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

- Competencies and Standards development. Suggestions of interested participants to assist us in the process.
- Identify relevant members to participate in our working group(s)

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia is unique in that it is entirely administered by volunteers across Australia and New Zealand. This can impact on fast communication at times.

Katy Try



## **Flight Nurses Australia Incorporated**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

Review of Corporate Governance in progress. Joint conference with International Society of Aeromedical Services held in Hobart 30 September to 2 October 2009.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

What tools are other nursing organisations using to log CDP?

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Margaret Tabone

## **GENCA – Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- We have finally become a company Limited by Guarantee. This was not without much angst among some of our members
- We have developed and produced a teaching DVD on endoscope reprocessing – and this was sponsored by Whiteley Australia.
- We have begun developing clinical competency templates for some endoscopic procedures and these are now available for purchase.
- Our national conference is due to start on October 21-24, 2009
- 3 Korean nurses are being sponsored to attend the national conference
- We were included in an educational program with GESA in Fiji in August to teach medical and nursing staff various aspects of gastroenterology nursing
- Some changes have been made regarding our credentialing and recredentialing program
- We have sent a number of state regional managers and board members to the RCNA training program re APEC endorsement and RCNA CNE points allocation for GENCA educational programs
- Our Fundamentals of Endoscopy Reprocessing program is now attracting international participation

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

We would like some assistance with any group who may have developed an education policy in alignment with APEC requirements. Any one wishing to share their policy will be treated with confidentiality and their policy is for comparative purposes and not for use. We would like not to have to re-invent the wheel! Please send your policy to: Anne Wilson [admin@genca.org](mailto:admin@genca.org) or Jeff Bull at [jeff.bull@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:jeff.bull@health.sa.gov.au)

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Lynn Rapley

## **NURSING INFORMATICS AUSTRALIA (NIA)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

1. Attendance at NI2009 in Helsinki, Finland
2. Annual NIA Conference – 18<sup>th</sup> August in Canberra
  - 60 attendees
  - Very positive feedback from attendees
3. E Nursing Framework development
4. NeHTA - Clinical terminologies
  - Ongoing
5. Australian Health Informatics Education Council
  - Report to Department of Health & Aging (DoHA)

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

- E Nursing Framework
  - Possible future use
- Health Informatics Workforce
  - Impact and education aspects
- NI Competencies
  - Use and dissemination

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

#### Development of Nursing Information System - SA Health

- How to disseminate information to all states
- Use of current developments and “not reinvent the wheel”

Joanne Foster

## **Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

May this year was our 13<sup>th</sup> National Conference. It was held on the Gold Coast at the Gold Coast Conference and Exhibition centre. This is held annually with our surgical colleagues, which allows us to attend any part of their meeting and share the medical trade expo. This meeting brings together members from around Australia and New Zealand. The quality of presentations this year was extremely high and the evaluations confirm that the members and delegates that attended were extremely satisfied and gained a lot from this meeting. Plans for the next three-day annual meeting are under way and this will be held in Sydney in March 2010.

Over the past six months OHNNG's state coordinators have run several education sessions in all states and attendance has been excellent. The topics have covered a wide range of Otorhinolaryngology diseases processes and treatments. All state coordinators have been encouraged to keep these sessions running as evaluation results from these evenings certainly show and interest and a need from the delegates and members.

Each of these sessions have been sponsored by medical companies and we thank them from our group for their consistent support

Next Educational Day is in Melbourne on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October and South Australia has an educational evening planned for the 7th November. All details are available on the website.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Nil at this current time

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Not at this time

Tracey Nicholls

## **Palliative Care Nurses Australia**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

The Annual General Meeting of PCNA was held during the national Palliative Care Australia conference in Perth WA. New committee members were elected.

The next Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference is to be held in Brisbane on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2010. Two of our keynote speakers are Prof. Deborah Sherman, University of Maryland Prof. Patsy Yates, Queensland University of Technology

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Sharing information with PCNA as to how other national groups address common issues such as governance, capacity building in the committee and membership growth.

Cathie Pigott

## **Psychogeriatric Nurses' Association (Australia) Inc (PGNA).**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Participation in the development of the Primary Health Care in Australia Document: A nursing and midwifery consensus view - April 2009.
- Representation on the NSW Older Persons Mental Health Working Group at the NSW Department of Health. This is an ongoing commitment by the PGNA. This working group developed the first Specialist Mental Health Services for Older People (SMHSOP) Service Plan published in 2006.
- PGNA in partnership with the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses (ACMHN) presented the ACMHN QLD Branch Tropical Symposium held June 2009
- PGNA holds bi-annual conferences and bi-annual Education and Research Forums for aged care and aged care psychiatry nurses, and allied health professionals who care for older people with mental health problems

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

This will be the first meeting that the PGNA has attended. Therefore, attendance at the CoNNO meeting will provide us with the information regarding future possible support from other similar nursing organisations.

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Elizabeth Brandis

## **Renal Society of Australasia (RSA)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

1. Completion of the Australian and New Zealand Dialysis Workforce Study (ANZDWS). This report can be accessed at <http://www.renalsociety.org/announcements/anzdws.html>
2. Completion of the GMCT NSW Renal Nursing Education Survey. This report can be accessed at <http://www.renalsociety.org/announcements/anzdws.html>
3. Appointment of RSA members to the Caring for Renal Impairment (CARI) guidelines working parties.
4. Formulation of conference guidelines to assist states in organising National Conferences. Development of a Conference Abstract Committee.
5. RSA Website home page revamped. <http://www.renalsociety.org>
6. Initiation of Kidney Health Australia scholarships to allow nephrology nurses to undertake post graduate education, Master of Nursing.
7. Incorporation of Nephrology Educators Network into the RSA.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

None at this time.

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

None at this time.

Sandra Campbell

## **Royal College of Nursing, Australia (RCNA)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

Development of RCNA strategic plan 2009-2012

RCNA's Annual Conference *Nursing – a sound investment for healthy returns* held 2-4 September 2009

Launch of Health and Wellbeing in Ageing Faculty during annual conference

RCNA Primary Health Care Conference *Collaboration, integration, reform: a nursing response* scheduled for 8-10 November 2010

Attendance at Council of National Representatives, ICN in Durban, South Africa in July 2009

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

RCNA would welcome the support from CoNNO members in promotion of the forthcoming primary health care conference in November

Debra Cerasa