

CoNNO Meeting – Wednesday 29 May 2013 Member Reports

List of member reports:

Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control
Australasian Hepatology Association
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association
Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses
Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses
Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc
Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association
Australian Faith Community Nurses Association
Australian Nurse Teachers' Society
Australian Nursing Federation
Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association
Australian Women's Health Nurse Association
Australian Wound Management Association
Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia
Flight Nurses Australia
Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia (formerly Australian Association of Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses)
Nursing Informatics Australia
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc
Palliative Care Nurses Australia
Renal Society of Australasia

Representing the national interests of nurses in all sectors of the health profession

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Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC) Report

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

The college is in the process of electing the next President Elect.

The first stage of transition to the new corporate structure under the Interim Executive Council is now complete and the college is in the process of electing the Executive Council.

The college was represented by Claire Boardman on behalf of Maija Juraja at the International Nurses Conference.

The college is currently working with APNA around education and capacity building.

The Standing Committees:

- Special Interest Groups (SIGs): Special interest groups are now at various stages of development with state SIGs becoming more active and email discussion on the website has commenced for most SIGs
- Credentialing and Professional Standards Committee: is increasing the scope of ACIPC credentialing beyond nursing to include medical disciplines in response to the membership diversity.
- Education and Research Committee: has completed an educational needs survey of the membership. A national road show of simulated workshops on Infection Control during Construction, Renovation and Maintenance is being rolled out in capital cities.
The 2013 conference will be held on the Gold Coast on 30 September – 2 October. Planning has commenced for the 2014 Infection Control conference to be held in Adelaide and a conference planner 2014-2019 has been drafted.
- Policy and Publication Committee: continues to work on review of existing and development of new policies and position statements. Healthcare Infection Journal has developed a new strategic plan.
- Governance Committee: has been newly established to oversee governance and risk management processes.

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

Nil

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil

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Australasian Hepatology Association (AHA)

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

The recently published Deloitte report – “The Economic Cost and Health Burden of Liver Disease in Australia” commissioned by The Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA) and Australian Liver Association (ALA) looks at the prevalence, mortality and cost of liver conditions in Australia in 2012. “The most prevalent liver disease was found to be Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) which affects an estimated 5.5 million Australians, including 40% of all adults aged 50 years and above.”¹ Currently Hepatitis C (HCV) affects approximately 310,000 people, Hepatitis B (HBV) 211,089 people, Alcoholic Liver Disease 6,203 and Primary Liver Cancer 1,451 people. Although overall mortality rates were difficult to obtain we know that NAFLD was responsible for 2,264 deaths, Hepatitis B 386 deaths, Hepatitis C 2,550 deaths, Primary Liver Cancer 1,270 and Alcoholic Liver Disease 780 deaths in Australia in 2012.² “The total financial cost of liver disease was estimated as \$5.4 billion in Australia in 2012 and the total cost including the burden of disease is estimated to be \$50.7 billion.”³

As health professionals we are highly aware and concerned about the growing demands of chronic liver disease on our health care services. The increased emotional, physical and financial burden on patients, families and society, due to the impact of increasing numbers of people affected by liver conditions, needs to be addressed at all levels of the health care sector. Many nursing roles will need to change and new nursing and allied health care positions will need to be created across remote, rural and urban communities to help meet these challenging demands.

The AHA is in step with these needs and is responding through its initiatives in projects, such as the establishment of nurse led community based models of care for advanced liver disease patients, as well as ongoing educational programmes for nurses and allied health professionals. The AHA Consensus Based Nursing Guidelines for the Care of Patients with Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Advanced Liver Disease and Hepatocellular Carcinoma (2012) – internationally the first guidelines to document a consensus on the scope of hepatology nursing; provides the foundation for the future of nursing care of people living with liver conditions, not only in Australia but worldwide.

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

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Please find attached –

- Deloitte Report - “The Economic Cost and Health Burden of Liver Disease in Australia”
- New AHA Board Contact Details

Megan Phelps
May 2013.

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Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association Inc. (ASHHNA)

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

- Provision of a scholarship to members of \$3000.
- Meeting of Executive in Melbourne in March for planning day. We have 1 member of the executive from New Zealand
- Quotes obtained to update the website aimed at improving functions and benefits for members
- Promotional material for the organisation redesigned
- Partner in the development of sexual health competencies for primary health care nurses

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

- Continuing to provide organisations with updated information particularly on governance

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not at this point

*Jo Perks
ASHHNA Inc*

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Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc

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

The AASTN have been extremely progressive and dynamic the last 6 months which is evidenced by:

- Development and publication of 16 Clinical Guidelines specific to Stomal Therapy Nursing. All members received a copy in March 2013. We are now working on paediatric specific inclusions.
- Revision and publication of AASTN Standards of Stomal Therapy Nursing Practice 4th Edition. All members will receive a printed copy in June 2013
- Communication with GENCA regarding peer review of AASTN Credentialling and recredentialling processes (all documents have been sent to GENCA in Feb/March 2013)
- Revision and revamping of AASTN Continual Professional Development Portfolio to come into alignment with AHPRA recommendations. All AASTN Full members participating in AASTN CPD must reach 30 hours stomal therapy nursing specific (stoma, wound, continence) CPD.
- 39th AASTN Conference in Hobart, Tasmania March 20th-22nd 2013. A record number of delegates (for Tasmania) attended which is a credit to the Tasmanian Organising Committee and support from industry.
- Formation of a national organising committee lead by Helen Nodrum, Cabrini Hospital, Victoria, to organise the 40th AASTN Conference in Melbourne Oct 2015 in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Federation of Coloproctologists (Colorectal Surgeons in the Asia Pacific region convened through the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand who we have worked with previously on combined international conferences) which will be well worth attending.
- Development and implementation of a national survey using Monkey Survey to determine stomal therapy nursing habits and preferences with products and routine follow up. This was sent out to members in March 2013 and will be published later in the year in our association's journal.
- The AASTN are represented in Stakeholder meetings at the highest level with the Government reviewing ostomy supplies which will impact on how the Stoma Appliance Scheme operates in the future.

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

Any indigenous cultural information.....We are wanting to develop a brochure specific to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in relation to stoma care and cultural norms that our members can utilise and learn from.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Clinical Placement for tertiary based courses continues to be a problem. 3 issues here: 1) Students usually work part time or full time, juggle a family and other professional commitments and have to take time away from their primary health care role to attend clinical placement at a time they are told to attend, rather than what suits their busy schedule. 2) availability of placement near the student and 3) allocation of acceptable number of clinical hours for placement at an advanced level. Clinical hours within courses are being eroded.

We would welcome any comments or experiences other organisations are confronted with or have been able to overcome without compromising their high standards/expectations.

Fiona Bolton

Chairperson AASTN Education and Professional Development Subcommittee

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Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses – ACCYPN

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

1. Current membership 563
2. Planning for the 4th International Congress on Paediatric Nursing is well underway. The congress will be held in Melbourne from the 24th to the 27th of August 2013. Conference theme is Connecting in children and Young People's Health Care
 - a. This will coincide with the 27th International Congress of Paediatrics.
 - b. Key note speakers are:
 - Eileen Sporing - the Chief of Nursing and Senior Vice President for Patient Care Operations, Boston Children's Hospital
 - Sally Kendall – Trustee, Institute of Health Visiting Research in the UK
 - Dr Lynn Gillam, - Associate Professor, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne
 - Rhonda Marriot – Senior Research, Centre for Child Health Research, University of Western Australia
 - c. 123 abstracts were received, with 99 different authors
 - d. Sponsorship secured for PNG nurses to attend
 - e. 4 master classes are planned for the 25th of August topics include:
 - Achieving quality in financially challenging times
 - Conducting research in vulnerable populations
 - To publish or perish in paediatrics and child health
 - Choosing not to immunise – Myths and misconceptions.
3. The College participated at The Nest Project November 2012, hosted by ARACY. The project is an independent project designed to improve the health, wellbeing and life opportunities of all children and young people in Australian by developing a national plan for coordinated action and setting future priorities.

The key result areas discussed on the day from initial background report were:

- a. Children and young people are loved and safe
- b. That Children and young people are healthy
- c. That Children and young people are learning
- d. That Children and young people are participating

Presentation from Play for Life

Next stage of the process had 4 elements:

- a. An almost unprecedented national consultation of children, young people and families on what an effective National Action Plan for Child and Youth Wellbeing would look like to them
 - b. Starting to consolidate an evidence base on the policies that work and don't work as well as the data on how we are performing in each of the KRAs
 - c. Give the project an identity, which is now known as *The Nest*
 - d. A Summit to communicate progress and agree across sectors on the next, more detailed stages
4. Regular Chapter events running in WA, Qld SA, Victoria and Tasmania
 5. Establishing list of e-learning sessions via weblinks for members to view online, current discount offer to members before the 30th June <http://www.accypn.org.au/pd/e-learning/>
 6. Have just started a facebook link, managed by our secretariat

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

1. Promotion of the upcoming conference, information can be found at the College's website www.accypn.org.au and <http://www.accypnconf.com.au/pages/speakers.php>

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

1. Work force issues related to capturing more accurate data about number so nurses working with children and young people across Australia

Jacquie Burton

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Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.

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

ACNN has been busy over the last few months. There are now four branches, in NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland. Membership is approximately 500.

The annual conference and AGM will be held on Friday 9 August in Townsville, followed by a symposium entitled *The beginnings of life: ethical issues in neonatal care* on Saturday 10 August.

Planning for the 2014 conference has begun, with the selection of Adelaide as the venue, in September.

The ACNN and Parker Healthcare scholarship was recently judged, with three recipients to be announced at the AGM in August.

The ACNN Neonatal Nurse Excellence Award was also recently judged, with four finalists selected to attend the conference where the overall winner will be announced.

ACNN has now approved four special interest groups, for neonatal education, neonatal nurse practitioners, neonatal research and neonatal palliative care. The Queensland branch has signalled that they wish to form another SIG for improving neonatal care in low resource countries in our region, in support of the MDG 4 and MDG 5, which relate to mothers and babies.

Shelley Reid
ACNN Secretary and Public Officer

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Australian College of Operating Room Nurses

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

ACORN has always operated for charitable purposes, primarily to further the health and wellbeing of the Australian community. The Board now thinks that it is appropriate that we apply to have this status formally recognised by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (the ACNC) and the Australian Taxation Office (the ATO). Formally recognised charity status would provide a number of benefits including becoming income tax exempt.

We have recently engaged the services of an external IT company to review their current IT provision with the aim to put together a long term strategy to take the organisation forward and create an e-business platform. ACORN work outside an office environment, and require systems and tools to handle email, e-communications, document sharing, secure document storage, web provision, online payments, possible membership management and other IT systems as required to run the organisation effectively.

The governance of the ACORN Professional Standards is also undergoing a significant review. We have engaged the Joana Briggs Institute to assist us in the development of the standards and we have recently advertised for a Standards Editor to oversee the review process.

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

We would appreciate any advice from members who have moved to, or considered moving to, an online e-business platform. As you are aware, this is a complex, expensive and every changing industry which is really outside our area of expertise.

The Board is exploring how it can improve its process in relation to risk management and governance. This may encompass areas such as financial, infrastructure, economic, competitive, political, environmental, and technological risks. We would appreciate any advice from members who feel they have addressed these issues in their association.

ACORN has had an Executive Officer position for a number of years and we now feel that it is time to review the position. If members would share their job description it would be much appreciated.

There is significant variation between universities in the amount of perioperative nursing theory and practice provided to undergraduate students. Have any other specialties identified a similar disparity and how has this been addressed?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil.

Jed Duff

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Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association (ADSNA)

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

We presently have 2 major projects in place for the committee.

1 The planning of our first national conference in October 2013, under the southern cross. The conference will be held at the Melbourne convention centre October 12 / 13. We are expecting between 400 and 500 attendees, and 50 trade.

2 The release of the new revised day surgery guidelines to coincide with the conference.

As a member of International Association Ambulatory Surgery(IAAS) are large number of Australian delegates are attending the international conference May 5 to 8 in Budapest.

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

We are trialling the use of attending to meetings via goto meet. It is a new concept for our committee, but would like to hear everyone else's comments and participation experience.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

We as a committee are interested in hearing the view from other organisations re the cost to an individual for multiple organisations

Robyn Sheather
President

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Australian Faith Community Nurses Assoc. Inc.

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

- **Baptist Care SA** started new education program – a 2 day 'Introduction to Health & Care Ministry' to prepare volunteers to support FCNs re primary health care within their faith community and the geographic and cultural group that it serves. Courses held in Nov 2012 and May 2013 both fully booked with 30 participants each.
- **'Developing Effective Mental Health Support in the Community'** Conference planned for Thurs 26th and Fri 27th Sept. information at www.afcna.org.au Excellent speakers include psychiatrists, researchers, theologians, mental health nurses, counsellors, carers and people living with MH needs. Interested CoNNO members are welcome to join us.
- **AFCNA has sponsored several members to attend professional development conferences:**
 - 2 FCNs went to NZ for the NZFCNA conference, 1 FCN went to UK to 'Faith in Health' conference and to with FCNs in UK.
- **Conference Papers:** Symposium re *spiritual care* presented by S Bennie (in conjunction with Nurses Christian Fellowship International members) at ICN Congress in Melbourne in May 2013.
 - A Van Loon to present re the FCN role and Health & Care Ministry at 'Spirituality and Ageing' conference in UK in July.
 - A van Loon presented at NCF Centenary Conference in May in Melbourne re 'The Future of Caring'.
- **International Education:** L Wiebusch from Lutheran Church undertaking an 'Introduction to Pastoral Nursing Course for RNs in Papua New Guinea in July 2013.
- **Graduate Diploma of Theology (Faith Community Nursing)** at Australian Lutheran College will be unavailable until further notice as the course is updated and restructured.
- **AFCNA Board** are looking at their constitution to enable membership to grow in the non-professional community without compromising the support and education FCNs require from the professionals group. They are also looking at establishing partnerships with like-minded professional nursing and health professionals groups.

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

- We want to review standards and competency documents for FCNs and wonder what ANMC timelines for review are for the core documents re competencies of an RN. Is there work being done to review current competencies for RNs/ENs, so we can ensure that we fit those timelines for our review.
- Is there a formalised procedure to have a specialty role recognised by CoNNO?
- Is it essential to provide applied competency standard exemplars if your role is new specialty and perhaps not 'recognised'?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Does CoNNO have any position/advisory papers available for not for profit associations and national professional bodies re changes to charitable tax status for associations?

Antonia van Loon RN PhD
Chairperson annevanloon@internode.on.net
Email: afcna@afcna.org.au
Website: www.afcna.org.au

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Australian Nurse Teachers' Society

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

1. National AGM – change of President & Secretary
2. Updated ANTS Constitution and Board Charter ratified
3. Launch of Clinical Educators award
4. Standardisation of processes and documents
5. Exploring communication technologies to link members across Australia
6. Full transition over to online business:
 - a) Annual membership renewals / financial transactions.
 - b) Registration to education seminars
 - c) Financial records
 - d) Improved accuracy of membership data linked to website

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

Considering the implications of changing name of the Society – has anyone else undertaken this task and have suggestions to assist?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

None at this time.

Lisa Gatzonis
President

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Australian Nursing Federation

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

Current ANF national campaigns:

Australia's Nurses and Midwives - Positive Nursing Campaign

Visit the ANF Federal Office website (www.anf.org.au) to find out about our national campaign *You couldn't be in better hands*, which aims to promote positive images of nurses and midwives, to the community.

Stop Passing the Buck, Australia's Nursing Grads Need Jobs Campaign

This campaign is raising awareness of the appallingly high numbers of newly graduating nurses not able to secure jobs. In Tasmania, only 30% of nurse graduates have been employed, in Queensland only 10%, 50% in South Australia and 800 nurse graduates are without employment in Victoria. To find out more visit the ANF Federal Office website: www.anf.org.au.

Telehealth Project

The ANF partnered in a Nursing and Midwifery Telehealth Consortia with APNA, Australian College of Midwives, Australian College of Nurse Practitioners and CRANApplus. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA), the *Telehealth Nursing and Midwifery: Education and Support Project* was part of the Government's aim was to provide more equitable access to specialist services for patients in regional, rural, remote and outer metropolitan areas. The ANF was responsible for managing the development and distribution of nationally agreed Telehealth professional practice standards and guidelines for nurses and midwives. These standards and guidelines will enable nurses and midwives to facilitate and contribute effectively to safe, high quality Telehealth on-line video consultations. The Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, Dr Rosemary Bryant, officially launched the standards and guidelines documents on 3 May 2013, at the APNA annual conference. Other components of the project included development of on-line learning modules, and communication and awareness raising activities. The overall project will be completed by the end of June 2013.

Working Safe in Rural & Remote Australia Project

The *Working Safe in Rural and Remote Australia project* is a joint initiative of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia, the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine, ANF, CRANApplus, the Queensland Teacher's Union, and the Police Federation of Australia. The project explored a community-based approaches to reducing workplace violence, and improving safety for rural and remote health professionals, teachers, and police. With Stage 1 nearing completion, the collaborating partners have submitted a proposal to DoHA for funding for Stage 2, to develop and implement a centralised incident reporting database system for monitoring workplace violence in rural and remote areas. The Stage 2 proposal has been developed in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Criminology. For further information about this project visit: www.workingsafe.com.au.

Health Workforce Australia: Extended Scopes of Practice Projects

HWA has funded a program of eight projects for nurses working in emergency departments and endoscopy services. Implementation sites for the nurses in emergency departments' project focus on mental health, paediatric nursing and rural and remote settings. These sites are spread across NSW and Victoria. Lead sites for the advanced practice in endoscopy nursing program are in Queensland and Victoria, with Queensland providing the education and training program for all project participants.

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Overall, these projects seek to recognise and utilise professional nursing expertise that either already exists, by introducing models of care to support nursing roles, or, in the case of nurse endoscopy, developing nursing expertise with additional education and training. Many of these projects are assisting Nurse Practitioners (and NP candidates), to work to their full scope in roles that recognise this advanced level of nursing practice. These models hold some promise in improving health outcomes for the community. Through representation on the Project Advisory Groups for both projects, the ANF is continuing to advise HWA of our concerns around the scope of practice and remuneration for these roles.

Evaluation of the full program of projects will be undertaken by the University of Wollongong, focusing on: the safety and quality impact of the projects; the costs and benefits involved; sustainability issues; and national scalability.

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

Support for professional and industrial campaigns being run by the ANF, for the benefit of nursing and midwifery colleagues across the country.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Continued feedback to, and collaboration with, the ANF.

Julianne Bryce

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Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association (Inc) **Report to the National Coalition of Nursing Organisations** **May 2013**

This organisation, along with similar groups in Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia, represents the interests of Australian Ophthalmic Nurses. Our objectives are around providing a forum for nurses working in ophthalmic practice, facilitating education, defining and promoting a standard for practice, creating networking opportunities and promoting research in this area of practice.

With this in mind **significant activities of the organisation in the last six months** include:

- Continued access to information via the Internet, websites are maintained by the NSW, Qld, WA and Vic Associations.
- Publication and distribution to members of a national newsletter, with contributions from all state groups and distribution to nurses in the Pacific region.
- Meetings for members held in each state several times per year; included in which is an education component and opportunity to exchange ideas.
- Support of post-graduate study for members and other ophthalmic nurses, through provision of scholarships and through support of existing post-graduate programs and courses.
- The project to develop a *Professional Practice Standard for Ophthalmic Nurses in Australia* has been distributed in draft form to members.
- Participation in the ACHS Clinical Indicator working party for ophthalmology.

Our organisation would be interested to share the experiences of other groups with the following issues currently being considered:

- Our group is an Incorporated Association, as are those in the other states. How could we develop a more formal national committee structure, without damaging the integrity of the state based organisations? There is a need to improve the communication between state based groups.
- We are exploring the idea of forming sub-branches in regional areas. Do other groups have experience of this? Are there any other suggestions for improving the service we provide regional members?

Thank you for the opportunity to join this forum.

Amanda Wylie

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Australian Women's Health Nurse Association Inc. (AWHNA Inc.)

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

AGM held in February 2013
Review/Update of Clinical Guidelines/Handbook in final draft
Review/Update of our Constitution completed
Professional Portfolio and Clinical Audit Tool currently being reviewed and updated
Three WHN's presenting papers at the 7th National Women's Health Conference in Sydney-May 2013
Provided one WHN with sponsorship to attend the 7th National Womens Health Conference
Preparation of our Annual WH Update, November in Sydney 2013
Increase in membership in Queensland
Exploring Social Media options for our members
Bimonthly mtgs with Teleconferencing continues with success
Australian College of Nursing-'Foundations of WH Nursing Course' continues-2 Graduates successfully completed Module 1
ANF-Online learning module -PMD currently being written
Our Newsletter the 'ESpeculator' – to be sorted for storage in the Archives of NSWNMA and to provide access to previous issues Online

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

Ongoing networking of our progress and membership drive

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not currently

Linda Oliver
President

Representing the national interests of nurses in all sectors of the health profession

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Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA)

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

Our 5th National Wound Awareness Week was held 18 -22 March and was kicked off with our commissioned study by KPMG revealing that the Federal government could save up to \$166 million a year if all eligible patients with venous leg ulcers (VLU) were treated with ed compression bandages and stockings. The full report can be accessed for free download at www.awma.com.au. The KPMG Health Economics report *An economic evaluation of compression therapy for venous leg ulcers* estimates that appropriate compression therapy for the treatment of VLU could deliver an average \$6,328 in health care savings per patient. The costs of compression items for patients battling VLUs could be reduced by an average \$399 per patient per year.

AWMA has been lobbying federal politicians for funding and was rewarded in the May federal budget with an announcement of funding of \$300,000 for a scoping study and cost benefit analysis of options to better address chronic wound management for Senior Australians

A new newsletter has been developed called *Compressions* which can also be downloaded from our website. This newsletter is designed for clinicians and lay people regarding venous leg ulcers.

We are working with international organisations from the USA (NPUAP) and Europe (EPUAP) for the development of Prevention and Management of Pressure Injuries/Ulcers International guidelines.

We continue to explore all the benefits of **GO TO Meeting**. Margo Asimus from NSW has been facilitating train the trainer sessions for subcommittee chairs.

Over 25 Australian Health Professionals attended the European Wound Management Association Conference 14-17 May in Copenhagen Denmark with many also presenting on a variety of topics. Our alliance with this association continues to grow.

Nationally our collaboration efforts are proving to be successful. The Plastics Surgery Conference in April at the Melbourne Convention Centre provided for a well-received two day study day on wound management in collaboration with the Burns Association and Plastics Nurses Association. We look forward to collaborating in 2015.

Less than one year to go for our National Conference in the Gold Coast next May. We anticipate at least 5 International Invited Speakers, over 700 participants and many practical workshops as well as the latest research and guidelines regarding wound management. See our website for details.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Johanna Briggs and Curtin University Evidence Summaries on Wound Management provides excellent information.

We are celebrating our 20th anniversary at the 2014 Conference and are seeking photos and interesting aspects of AWMA if any of your members have attended and would like to submit information please contact me.

Terry Swanson NPWM
Nursing Representative
tswanson@swh.net.au

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Cancer Nurses Society of Australia

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

Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (CNSA) has undergone significant change in the past 12 months with the membership voting at the AGM in 2012 in favour of CNSA establishing itself as an independent society. CNSA's beginnings were in the Nurses Group of the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA), but today CNSA stands as an independent body for cancer nurses in Australia. Members now have the choice to join CNSA only or become separate members of both CNSA and COSA.

A major work for CNSA over the past eighteen months has been the rebranding of the society with both a new logo and a new revitalised website at www.cnsa.org.au. The new website includes online membership renewal and a members only area.

Changes within the National Executive Committee include the commencement of a new President in 2013, Sandy McKiernan. CNSA have also recently employed an Executive Officer, Julie Calvert, and Administration Assistant, Amy Ribbons, to assist the society in its day to day running and strategic direction.

Planning for the CNSA Annual Winter Congress is currently underway. It will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, from 25 – 27 July, 2013.

CNSA has recently established an MOU with the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand Nurses Group.

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

Sharing of experience and information regarding membership recruitment and retention.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

CNSA would like to invite CONNO to contribute to the CNSA newsletter. In particular, we ask that CONNO outline their focus and explain to CNSA members the importance of CNSA being a member of CONNO.

The information regarding CNSA contained on the CONNO member list needs to be updated to reflect recent changes to our society. This information will be provided to CONNO in a separate document.

Anne Mellon
CNSA Secretary

May 2013

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Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia Inc. (DANA)

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

- Submission to, and appearance before, the NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 inquiry regarding the effectiveness of current drug and alcohol policies with regard to deterrence, treatment and rehabilitation of those affected by drug and alcohol addiction.
- Submissions in response to:
 - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan;
 - Victorian Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Principles Consultation paper;
 - Rising to the Challenge: The Mental Health and Addiction Service Development Plan 2012-2017.
- Participation in the:
 - 1st meeting of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA).
 - APSAD meeting 18th-21st November 2012
 - Australian College of Nursing Conference Perth 17th-19th October
- Full revision of the DANA Constitution.
- Establishment of a Credentialling Working Party and Credentialling Advisory Committee and determination of credentialling selection criteria.
- Organisation of major educational events:
 - National Addiction Nursing Symposium in Auckland
 - NSW Nurses Forum
 - Walk on the Wildside (WOWS) One Day Symposium Brisbane
- DANA ACT Chapter Representative Jennifer Harland to represent CONNO on the National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) Stakeholder Product Consultation Group (SPCG).
- DANA Vice President Margo Hickman selected for Rotary funded one month study program to The Netherlands to study drug and alcohol treatment.
- DANA endorsement of "Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs: Clinical Guidelines for Nurses and Midwives" (Version 3, 2012) edited by DANA members Prof Charlotte De Crespigny and Jackie Talmet.
- Final planning underway for 1st off-shore DANA conference, to be held in Auckland in June 2013.
- Implementation of Payway to automate processes around membership applications and renewals.
- Launch of the DANA scholarship program.

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

- Networking with other organisation that have implemented or are considering implementing "Governance Standards for Nursing and Midwifery Organisations".
- Suggestion about minimising the costs associated with Teleconferencing.
- Recognition systems for ENs

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Colleen Blums
President

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Flight Nurses Australia

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

- Fostered relationships with New Zealand Flight Nurses Association
- Observed New Zealand FNA Aeromedical Retrieval Course
- Progressing with planning for joint Scientific Conference Melbourne 28-29 August 2013.
- New website launched.

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

Nil

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil

Margaret Tabone

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Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia-MCAFHNA (formerly Australian Association of Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses)

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

Ratification of name change and change in and ratification of Organisation rules to enable all members of each state and territory group to be members of the National association. This has increased our membership from 16 to over 1150.

We would like to officially thanks the ANF for the support from their lawyer in helping us facilitate this process.

May 9th-13th, we held the 5th biennial conference of the association in Canberra. We had an attendance of over 650 delegates to this 'Connections' 2013 conference. The main focus of the conference was greater unification of our state and territory groups into a National voice for children and families.

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

Development of national standards and competences

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not at this point

Julian Grant

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NURSING INFORMATICS AUSTRALIS (NIA)

Lis Herbert, Chair NIA

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

NIA Strategic Plan – having worked on this for a number of years, we have refined the plan to be more achievable and realistic. The NIA strategic Plan will be on the website after it has been ratified by committee at the next meeting. The HISA board have also refined their strategic plan so the NIA plan is now aligned to this.

Competencies – the Nursing Informatics competencies have been sent some time ago (Sept 2011) to ANF for ratification and approval prior to being released. It is hoped that this will occur soon as there is increased interest within nursing education facilities and the general workforce as it is realised the critical importance of nursing informatics in the current workforce and also must be included in workforce planning for the future.

Health Informatics Certification – Jo Foster has represented both education and nursing on the group who have been involved with the writing of questions etc for certification via HISA. It is planned that this will be launched at the Health Informatics Conference in July.

The Health Informatics Conference will be held in July in Adelaide this year. The NIA one day conference is on the Monday of the conference week – this should be a great day judging by the number of papers submitted and the variation in topics.

HISA (Health Informatics Society Australia) – Lis represents NIA on the HISA board. There is a lot of work going into certification and also workforce planning. The Big Data conference in April was well attended, with representation from both state and federal governments – quite a number of interesting new articles came out of this conference, all talking about the role of informatics and health care, and the importance of marrying up both.

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

Nursing informatics seems to be ignored by the profession but it shouldn't as informatics underpins all specialty areas across both acute and primary care. Why not invite a nursing informatics expert to your meetings so that they can speak to your group about informatics and how it impacts on your work now and the changes for the future.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nursing must be included in any future planning in relation to eHealth as we are the largest health profession user group.

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Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group (OHNNG)

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

We have just successfully run our 17th National Conference in Perth with 98 registered delegates attending from around Australia and New Zealand.

We have successfully recruited new state coordinators for Victoria, ACT and Tasmania.

We have been able to re-establish our “ENT Scope” newsletter.

Obtained full liability insurance for the group and have been able to renew our APEC status with the College of Nursing authorising us to hold accredited educational events.

Our website has just had a revamp to its design and hits to our site are forever increasing...

Correspondence from members, chapters, other nurses, surgeons, hospitals and medical companies remain incredibly constant.

Annually The South Australian Nursing and Midwifery Board held their Excellence Awards. These awards recognise and acknowledge the significant contribution that nurses and midwives make to the community and their professions through their practice. Our member Allana King – ENT CSC of the Royal Adelaide Hospital won the “Future leader” award.

Catherine Johnson our member in NSW has completed her NP ENT and Lana Tutin has secured an ENT NP role with southern health in Victoria.

Congratulations to all this is a huge step and recognition for all ENT nurses.

We continue to award scholarships for our members to attend both national and international meetings with eight awarded this financial year.

Each State has continued to provide several education sessions and study days for our members with good attendance and feedback

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

No

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No not currently

Tracey Nicholls
OHNNG President

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Palliative Care Nurses Australia (PCNA)

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

In line with PCNA's commitment to provide professional support, a program of events covering a range of relevant professional topics as identified by membership will be provided for members and prospective members. The first planned is in Brisbane during palliative care week 19 – 26 May. Similar events are planned in other states for that week and subsequently to mark the national initiative. PCNA has a history of successful national conferences and the move to local networking and education events is part of increasing opportunities for members to maintain knowledge and professional relationships encouraging involvement in this sector of the profession.

Follow up from the Senate inquiry – included in the Report of the Senate Community Affairs References Committee on Palliative Care in Australia was the recommendation: *Recommendation 10: The committee recommends that the Australian government create an ongoing and dedicated national scholarship fund for postgraduate studies in palliative care nursing.* PCNA will continue to advocate (lobby) with government for uptake of the recommendation in the lead up to and following the federal election.

PCNA made a submission to the Queensland Parliamentary Inquiry into palliative care services and home and community care services in Queensland in late 2012. The report was published 20th May 2013 and is being reviewed by PCNA at time of writing this report.

Specialist Palliative Care Nursing Competency Framework – PCNA is currently planning a review and feasibility study of the 2005 PCNA palliative care specialist nurse competency framework.

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

Recruitment of members for expert reference group for feasibility study.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not at this time

Kym Griffin

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Renal Society of Australasia

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

Conference

- Issues highlighted by 2012 conference feed back survey
 - weekends may not be good
 - public holidays not good
 - ? Would biannual be better
- Conference committee everything is set in place for the 2013 conf to be held 5-7 June in Hobart Tas.
- Still hoping to do joint conf with medical ANZSN for 2014

In March Nephrology Educators Network (NEN) Symposium which was held at the Gold Coast.

Interactive website

- <https://nen.savvecentral.com/index.php>
- The interactive e learning site now has 4 courses available to members
- The journal club for members is also run through this portal
- Currently is still a free service but may have to be user pay in future

Nurse practitioners

Nephrology NPs are currently one of the biggest NP groups in the country.

Papers

- Home Dialysis Advisory Committee's Position Statement:
- Peritoneal Dialysis - Best Practice - Peritonitis Prevention

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

Nil

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil

Beth Amega

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