

CoNNO Secretariat Report for May to October 2010

Secretariat Team

The CoNNO Secretariat team is based at the Federal Office of the ANF in Melbourne. The hardworking team consists of Anastasia Shianis, Administrative Assistant to the Professional Team. Anastasia organises CoNNO Council and members meetings, attends to agendas and minutes, maintains CoNNO files, coordinates email traffic and accommodates the many requests of CoNNO Council and members. Elizabeth Foley, ANF Professional Officer works with the Secretariat in a Project Officer capacity, drafting documents and providing input into reports and submissions. Barb Hughes, ANF Finance Officer maintains accounts, financial records and prepares balance sheets for Council. Krista McClelland and Kristy Male, Federal Graphic Designer and Administrative Assistant to the Communications Team provide IT support, format reports, submissions and surveys and maintain the CoNNO website. Many thanks to the Chair, Council and Secretariat team for their hard work.

Council elections

Voting in the CoNNO Council election closed on Friday 3 September 2010. Over 60% of our member organisations voted (32 organisations).

The five successful nominees from the ballot of nine are: Kim Ryan; Tracey Osmond; Lyn Hinspeter; Debra Cerasa; and Maryanne Craker.

The Secretariat would like to thank all the nominees for their interest and participating in the process. I'd like to acknowledge the hard work and input of Amanda Rischbieth and Lynn Rapley, our outgoing Council members, and thank them for their contribution. The new Council structure will commence following the CoNNO member meeting on Friday 8 October 2010.

The new CoNNO Council will consist of: Helen Gosby; Belinda Caldwell; Robyn Coulthard; Julianne Bryce; Kim Ryan; Tracey Osmond; Lyn Hinspeter; Maryanne Craker; and Debra Cerasa.

Following the October meeting, CoNNO Council will conduct an election for the appointment of the new Chair and the Deputy Chair of CoNNO.

Action items from May 2010

There are no outstanding items from the May 2010 CoNNO Meeting.

Correspondence

The Secretariat received correspondence in August 2010 from Geriaction to inform CoNNO that they were in the process of dissolving and were therefore obliged to withdraw from CoNNO. The ACSQHC sent a request to CoNNO in August 2010 for input on a draft discussion paper on Patient Safety in Primary Health Care. This draft paper was circulated to CoNNO members on 19 August 2010. A letter was received on 1 October 2010 regarding the Use of Simulated Learning Environments in Nursing Curricula Project being conducted by Edith Cowan University on behalf of Health Workforce Australia. CoNNO has been requested, as a key stakeholder, to provide feedback to the Project Team. The draft response from CoNNO will be circulated to members for comment.

The CoNNO Secretariat has circulated emails relating to conferences, media releases, meetings, newsletters and projects to CoNNO members for their involvement, information and further circulation to their respective membership.

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

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Website

Wildtribe Designs were engaged to redevelop the CoNNO website. The CoNNO Secretariat has circulated a Member Profile Survey to gather information to update the CoNNO website. Twenty two member organisations have responded to the survey to date. A request was also made for photographs for the website. As only two were received, the Secretariat engaged a photographer to provide the necessary graphics for the new website. It is envisaged that the website will be completed by the end of the year.

Governance online education module

The Governance Framework (Standards and Toolkit) is being developed into an online education module. This work is being undertaken by Australian Health Consulting with the module due to be completed by the end of November.

Mentorship survey

The CoNNO Secretariat in conjunction with the CoNNO Council developed a Mentorship Survey which was circulated to members in September. Sixteen responses were received. The Council will consider the survey results and provide a report to the membership via email.

National Nurse Credentialling Framework

In July 2010, CoNNO received funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) to undertake a project to develop a nationally consistent framework for nurse credentialling. The project will provide agreed standards on credentialling and a resource toolkit for professional nursing bodies wishing to undertake or develop a credentialling program. The CoNNO Council has elected to use a selective tender process in appointing a Project Officer to conduct this project. Three consultants have been approached to tender for the project.

Application for membership

CoNNO Secretariat received an application for membership from the Association of Private Nursing Services (APNS) in May. This application was considered by CoNNO Council at their meeting in September. It has been determined that APNS is not eligible for CoNNO membership.

Budget and funding

The CoNNO Secretariat submitted a funding proposal for the next 12 months in May 2010. This proposal was accepted, with CoNNO also receiving additional funding for the development of a National Nurse Credentialling Framework. This project is due for completion at the end of June 2011. The final report to DoHA for the 2009/10 funding round was submitted and accepted in August 2010.

Julianne Bryce
ANF Senior Federal Professional Officer
CoNNO Secretariat

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