

CoNNO Meeting – Friday 1 May 2015 Member Reports

List of member reports:

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Corporation
Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control
Australasian Hepatology Association
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc
Australian and New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association
Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing
Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc
Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses
Australian College of Critical Care Nurses
Australian College of Neonatal Nurses
Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Australian Dermatology Nurses Association
Australian Diabetes Educators Association
Australian Faith Community Nurses Association
Australian Forensic Nurses Association
Australian Nurse Teachers Society
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association
Australian Student and Novice Nurse Association
Australian Women's Health Nurse Association
Australian Wound Management Association
Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Continence Nurses Society of Australia
Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery
CRANApplus
Discharge Planning Association
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia
Flight Nurses Australia
Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia
Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia
Nursing Informatics Australia
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc
Palliative Care Nurses Australia
Renal Society of Australasia

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Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Corporation (ANNA Inc).

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

- Feedback received from members relating to the updated NSW Health Audiometry History and report forms will be forwarded to the Ministry of Health end of March and June.
- The ANAA Inc committee have reviewed the Clinical Practice Standards which are in their final draft and almost ready for distribution.
- A new ANAA website is being built as newer software no longer supports the current website.
- Client education leaflets have been finalised and will be uploaded onto our new website. Members to be advised when this is operational.
- The committee is currently debating the potential advantages and disadvantages of a scholarship for audiometry nursing. A draft proposal is to be developed prior to further discussion.
- Review of ANAA Inc documents scheduled for 2015 has commenced.
- Discussion continues regarding the review of the ANAA Inc professional development fund
- Any issues relating to the 2014/15 Business Plan are addressed at each meeting.
- The next committee meeting will be held via teleconference : May 29th 2015.
- The 2015 ANAA Annual Conference will take place over 2 days in October at Coffs Harbour .

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

Tracy Clarke

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Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control inc. (ACIPC)

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

ACIPC Executive Council have been reviewing the current structure of the standing committees. A major piece of work for the council has been reviewing the college's vision and strategic plan considering the changes in the committees, the membership needs and the future of the college. The college also successfully changed its constitution to allow for a consolidated presidency and support for the incoming presidents with funding for leadership courses.

- The college has reviewed its membership and will be launching new membership categories, including a members charter to the members at the college conference in November 2015.
- The college has appointed an Education Officer to undertake the planning and implementation of our education strategy.
- The college has successfully appointed a Patron – Dr. Peter Collignon.
- The college conference was successful with the launch of its first biannual leadership award – The Claire Boardman Award.
- The college is now working towards final preparation for the annual national conference in 2015. The 2016 conference forward planning has also commenced.
- The college Governance Committee has also reviewed and developed new policies for the college Executive Council, standing committees and external committee representation.
- Select college members have just completed a short-term on a national committee to provide expertise in the development of a national guideline for the management of Viral Haemorrhagic Fever (Ebola).
- The college has also provided several responses to national standards and draft state or national guidelines. We currently have member representation on several Standards Australia Committees.
- The college is nearing completion of a new website that will meet the future needs of the members, as well as meet administrative requirements.
- The college is currently providing representation on a National Special Interest Group on Wound Management with the AWMA.

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

To support dissemination of our college conference information to CoNNO members.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at present.

Report Prepared by: Marija Juraja, Immediate Past President ACIPC
May 1st Meeting 2015

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Australasian Hepatology Association

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

The AHA were invited to present, on behalf of all Australian Hepatology Nurses at a Parliamentary Enquiry into HCV - Megan Phelps, President and Dr Jacqui Richmond. A written submission was also uploaded to the Parliamentary Enquiry website and can be viewed on the My Parliament Site.

Development of a new website which is user friendly and will move with the times. Downloads and up to date information available online. All membership applications and renewals will now go directly through the website to streamline the process. This will also allow us to develop and provide educational material, including short online courses and webinars to nurses and health professionals seeking information on Liver related diseases.

AHA summit to be held in Melbourne in June 2015. Open to all nurses this year, not just AHA members.

Organising AHA sessions for Australian Gastro Week.

The AHA's Practice Standards have been revised and are now available through our new website. These were developed to be used in conjunction with the AHA Nursing Guidelines, and will soon be available on the Website as an interactive document for all members, especially with the recent approval of new HCV medications that could be prescribed through general practice in the future.

Commenced development of an Advanced Liver Disease 1 Day course for health care professionals which will be rolled out across the country. We are developing this course with a wide variety of nurses and health professionals in mind, as Liver Disease many of the patients seen by all nursing groups represented around this table today.

All oral treatments for HCV have been approved by the PBAC. HCV positive patients can now receive highly effective and tolerable treatments with much shorter duration periods. This will impact the number of patients receiving treatment, and help to prevent future cases of chronic liver disease including cirrhosis, hepatocellular carcinoma and the need for liver transplantation. It will also likely have an impact on the health budget over the next 20 years. We are likely to see >90% cure rates in real world situations. These drugs have received S85 approval, in the future these drugs could be prescribed in general practice and Practice nurses will need to be aware of DDI's, side effects, resistance etc.

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

Go to our website and have a look - we have some resources for free download, like us on Facebook and twitter to help raise our profile, – can we like your pages too?

www.hepatologyassociation.com.au

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

We would like to know what members need and want to know about liver disease. Consider putting out a survey monkey to CoNNO members at some stage so we can better target the important aspects.

It would be good to know if there are any examples of Nurse Prescribing, other than Nurse Practitioners, in Australia. Could any information on this be forwarded to members please.

Megan Collins

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Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc

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

- Website development
- AGM and new executive
- Executive Planning Day February 2015
- Committees - International Sexual Health Conference Brisbane September 2015
- S100 prescribing work with ASHM

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?

Jo Perks

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Australian & New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association (ANZONA)

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

ANZONA has focussed on improving links with other relevant organisations. Traditionally ANZONA has been relatively isolated in its function and has not developed links with other similar organisations.

ANZONA has encouraged orthopaedic nurses from Australia & New Zealand to increase publication rates in all types of literature but especially in our official journal- The international Journal of Orthopaedic & Trauma Nursing.

We are also focussing on developing our social network systems to improve awareness and engagement.

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

ANZONA sees potential to discuss strategies with other groups to that can assist improving member engagement as well as improving awareness on a broader scale.

ANZONA is relatively new to CoNNO and sees the organisation as great opportunity for nurses from all specialities to work together for the benefit of our patients.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

ANZONA has noticed a gradual move away from speciality nursing in the clinical setting. Some wards are becoming more general and specialities are being diluted. Senior management of healthcare facilities may believe that all nurses should be able to provide care to a wide range of patients. ANZONA acknowledges that there is benefit in increasing nurses' awareness of the care needs of a broad range of diseases and injuries but feels that it is vital that the specialisation of nurses is not lost. Patients could be potentially put at risk if specific skills & knowledge are lost from different specialities. It would be interesting to see if this change in care is being felt by other specialties.

Paul McLiesh
President

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Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN

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

Each year the ANZSVN conference is combined with the ANZSVS, however for 2015 their conference is off-shore (Hawaii). Planning is underway for the inaugural Australia and New Zealand Society of Vascular Nursing Conference in Adelaide, South Australia 12-14 November. The SA Branch is the organising committee and the website is open for acceptance of registrations and abstracts with the theme of "*Working Together for an Integrated Approach*" at <https://wired.ivvy.com/event/ANZSVN/>

Planning is underway for Vascular Nursing Week across the states to be celebrated 19 - 26 July 2015.

STATE REPORTS:

VICTORIA: AGM held in November with current committee continuing. Last education session for 2014 had a diabetes theme with was titled "*Why Diabetes causes the Problems it does in Vascular Patients*" and update on the latest '*Diabetes Medications*' with powerpoints available for review on the members only section of the website. Currently at 22 financial members.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: we welcome our WA members as direct ANZSVN members as there is no state branch at this time.

QUEENSLAND: Education night in March with topic "*Custom made stocking measurements – how do we get it right?*" Further education nights planned for July, September and combined with AGM and Christmas Party in December. Currently at 72 financial members.

NEW SOUTH WALES & ACT: Member competition to develop a new logo for the NSW & ACT Society of Vascular Nursing INC. continues. A scholarship in acknowledgement of Isobel Green for her contribution in establishing the state group has been made available. Professional development day is planned for 27 November on "*Major Amputation*".

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & TASMANIA: First education night for 2015 was combined with MINA on "Aortic Dissection". Additional dates are planned for June and September. Our Journal Club is sponsored and continues with a member presenting a comparison/outcomes of (2) or more articles on a topic of their choice to the group for discussion. Moved to an e-system for renewals and registering for education events with a positive uptake by members. Currently at 75 financial members with another 30+ due for renewal.

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

Promotion of our national conference through member organisations with a flyer available by contacting the conference secretariat at sasvnursing@gmail.com

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at this time

Karen Simunov - ANZSVN CoNNO Representative

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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?

1. Reviewing and recognising 2 Stomal Therapy Nursing Education Programs. The following programs have been recognised by the AASTN for a period of 3 years:
 - a. Australian College of Nursing Graduate Certificate in Stomal Therapy Nursing
 - b. Curtin University of School of Nursing and Midwifery Graduate Certificate in Advanced Clinical Nursing (wound ostomy and continence)
2. Finalised a memorandum of Understanding between the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists and the AASTN in recognition of Stomal Therapy Nursing Education Programs. Any program recognised by AASTN will automatically be recognised by our international partners and displayed on their website.
3. Working with the Australian College of Nursing to enhance effective relationships with AASTN to promote communication and effective preceptorship.
4. Survey AASTN membership on effectiveness of the AASTN Education and Professional Development Subcommittee and actioning outcomes. Main issue is the need for increased education in the regional areas. We are looking at how to facilitate this.
5. Organisation of a national stomal therapy nursing conference in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Federation of Coloproctologists to be held 5th to 8th October 2015
6. Successfully arranged for Paypal to pay membership fees-has been a very positive response from our members this year and has increased renewal rate.
7. Updating website, association handbook and committee roles/responsibilities

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

Looking at how we can facilitate international post graduate stomal therapy nursing education program students to participate in clinical placement within Australia. English language requirements limits their access to Australia. The students will be with a preceptor at all times so this issue should not be an issue.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

As above.

*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?

- Current membership 547
- The ACCYPN's international conference was held in October 2014 in Cairns, with the conference theme being 'Are the Children Well'. 108 delegates attended + 19 virtual delegates. The next conference will be in Adelaide in 2016
- Working party has reviewed the previous ACCYPN competencies, now called standards of practice, in the last stages of finalisation, with draft standards to be reviewed by ACCYPN members.
- Involved with other National Nursing Organisation's and the Queensland Nursing and Midwifery Nursing Council, looking at credentialing, draft documents being reviewed
- Currently reviewing all position statements, business rules and strategic plan. A recent publication of new position statement about Refugee and Asylum Children co-badged by Australian College of Mental Health Nurses
- Chapter events running in WA and Qld.
- Bimonthly member newsletters
- Redeveloping education services, developing a knowledge centre, e-learning sessions via weblinks for members to view online, <http://www.accypn.org.au/pd/e-learning/>

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

- Promotion of the next conference, information is on the College's website www.accypn.org.au

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

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

*Jacquie Burton
Board of Director, ACCYPN*

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Significant Activities

1. 9 - 11 October 2014 - 39th ACCCN ANZICS Intensive Care Annual Scientific Meeting Melbourne Convention Centre
2. Editing and completion of the ACCCN Practice Standards for Specialist Critical Care Nurse
3. Launch of the ACCCN Practice Standards at the 16th Annual ICE Meeting 18 – 19 June 2015 Glenelg Adelaide
4. Development of Workforce Advisory Standards
5. Continued development of ACCCN Website and database
6. Development and finalisation of ACCCN Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020

Issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist ACCCN with:

1. How to engage the younger generation in ACCCN events and activities, and encourage membership
2. Useful marketing strategies

I you wish CoNNO to consider:

None

Suzy Ladanyi

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Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.

PO Box 32 Camperdown NSW Australia 1450 • acnn@acnn.org.au

www.acnn.org.au • 1300 785 774

ABN 62 075 234 048

Report to CoNNO, May 2015

ACNN has four branches, in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland. Membership from all states and territories remains strong and growing slowly.

The annual conference and AGM will be held on Friday 11 September in Sydney, followed by a symposium entitled *Skin health and skin care* on Saturday 12 September. Our conference keynote speaker is Professor Donna Waters, the new Dean of the University of Sydney Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery (Sydney Nursing School). Johnson & Johnson is sponsoring two international speakers for the symposium. The conference will be preceded by meetings presented by the various special interest groups.

The ACNN and Parker Healthcare Early Career/Early Research Career Scholarship was available again this year. Winners will be announced at the AGM during the conference.

The ACNN Neonatal Nurse Excellence Award has also just closed for nominations. Once again there were a pleasing number of nominations from both nurses and parents. Three finalists were selected to attend the conference in Sydney where the overall winner is to be announced.

The ACNN special interest groups (neonatal education, neonatal nurse practitioners, neonatal research and the low resource countries SIG) continue their work. The LRC SIG has been active in training for the *Helping Babies Breathe* program which they took to Goroka, Papua New Guinea, in 2014 and will be returning there this May to continue more training. A link has been made with the Australian midwives from the University of Technology Sydney, also in Goroka to provide education.

There is interest from a member in establishing another SIG for members interested in leadership, and a scoping meeting will be held at the conference in September. The aims include encouraging managers to support their staff in college activities and providing support to emerging leaders.

ACNN continues to have a representative for the National Baby Friendly Health Initiative Advisory Committee, the Australian and New Zealand Neonatal Network, the Raising Children Network Scientific Advisory Board and the NGO Coalition for Protecting Australia's Children.

ACNN is a member of the Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN). Our Professional Officer Dr Karen New is the current COINN president and the next international neonatal nurses conference will be in Vancouver, in August 2016.

Shelley Reid

ACNN Secretary and Public Officer

Australian College of Operating Room Nurses

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

The college recruited a new Executive Officer, Wendy Rowlands. Wendy has extensive experience in leading not-for-profit professional associations. This was the first time the college used a professional recruitment agency and opened the position to non-nursing applicants.

Over the last 6 months we trialled a webinar series using the go-to webinars platform. The series has become increasingly popular with the last event attracting over 200 participants. We are planning to increase the frequency of events to monthly for the rest of this year.

Last year we made our ACORN Standards available via secure PDF and App to complement the traditional book format. This year we have added the option of secure web viewing and hospital/network site licensing.

ACORN recently signed an MOU with Elsevier publishers to produce an introductory perioperative textbook. We have also signed an MOU with a leading Australian university to produce an online perioperative nursing graduate certificate/ diploma.

We undertook our first national members' survey last month with 1,200 members participating. Overall the feedback on the college and its services was very positive. 80% of respondents were completely or very satisfied with the college and 98% would recommend membership to a friend.

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

ACORN would like to start a dialog with any colleges/ associations allied to perioperative/ surgical nursing. Please catch me at the CNNO members meeting or email me president@acorn.org.au.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No.

*Jed Duff
President*

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Australian Dermatology Nurses Association. (ADNA)

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

Current Membership = 301 as of 11.04.15.
In the last six months these key activities have occurred.

ADNA Victorian Education day September 2014 attended by 29 nurses with the overall evaluation of the day being good to excellent. Positive feedback and suggestions for next year's presentations given that will be addressed by ADNA.

ADNA Queensland Education day themed "Keep in touch with the skin" was held in October 2014 with 26 attendees. 70% of evaluations returned indicating a high level of satisfaction with the speakers, good information on new developments in dermatology and overall an enjoyable educational day.

On 1st November ADNA NSW state education day was held with 85 attendees. Themed "Myth or Fact" the day was very successful with an 84% evaluation response with more than 60% of attendees rating it "Excellent". The work of the 2 state representatives was greatly appreciated and acknowledged by attendees. The presentations were enjoyed by all, who found them clear, concise, useful, informative and interesting even humorous at times! Again many future education day topics were suggested that will be covered within the next year.

The National Conference will be held in May 2015 in Adelaide for 2 days. Significant progress has been made by the Executive Committee in securing and strengthening the relationship with the Australasian College of Dermatologists. This has resulted in a combined conference, tradeshow, collocated and the potential for nurses to attend their conference at a heavily discounted fee.

In August, four members of the Executive Committee are attending the World Conference on Dermatology in Vancouver.

The Most significant improvement made in the previous 6 months is the redesign and launching of the ADNA website. This has been a long arduous task which is still requiring some fine tuning.

ADNA continues to provide 3 monthly newsletters to all members that are a combination of member contributions, latest innovations in dermatology, research articles and excellent articles by the editor.

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

ADNA would appreciate any advice from other members on how the member registration process can be streamlined, especially related to banking transfers and e-mail addresses being tied to actual memberships?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No

Sally Holmes

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Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA)

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

ADEA has:

- Implemented an on-line credentialling and re-credentialling process
- Implemented a new system of credentialling that changes the credentialling categories; based on a review undertaken with members
- Advocated for Private Health Insurance rebates for CDE services
- Implemented a research framework that includes development and testing of a research register and toolkit.
- Moved all member transactions to electronic transaction
- Commenced implementation of Improving Health Literacy for People with Diabetes and Client Centred Care or People with Diabetes Information Sheets with a range of activities and resources
- Have introduced Webinars for professional development, which are well received by members
- Board approved eligibility of Physiotherapists to become CDEs
- Reviewed the whole Constitution, developed a communications strategy with members for voting later in 2015
- Wrote submissions to:
 - The Senate Select Committee on Health and appeared as a witness
 - The ACCC enquiry into private health insurance
 - MSAC on Shared Medical Appointments – Joint submission with ESSA & DAA
- Promoted to governments, and other stakeholders the Deloitte Access Economics report that ADE commissioned
-

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

N/A

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Health Workforce Australia (HWA) developed a report on Health Practitioner Prescribing Pathways (HPP) (non-medical prescribing), following considerable and extensive consultation. The development of the HPPP is complete and work commenced implementation prior to the de-funding of HWA. A report containing the final HPPP and high level recommendations for implementation was approved by the Standing Council on Health on 8 November 2013.

The HWA projects have been taken over by the Department of Health and despite efforts, it is difficult to get any definitive information about the HPP project. Is this an issue that CoNNO could seek information from the department about? The project has important implications for all nurses and allied health professionals.

Joanne Ramadge
CEO

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Australian Faith Community Nurses Association Inc.

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

- National Conference in September on topic of 'Health Coaching' for people living with chronic conditions attracted 80 people.
- Lynette and Rev Robert Wiebusch invite to undertake another course in Goroka, Papua New Guinea to prepare more pastoral care nurses within the Lutheran Church there.
- Introduction to Pastoral Care Nursing course available by flexible learning.
- Dr Antonia van Loon Invited to be on World Forum of Faith Community Nurses internationally to foster international collaboration in research and practice

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

- Keeping abreast of, and having input into professional standards and regulatory requirements

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- None at present

Anne Van Loon

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Australian Forensic Nurses Association

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

Our website is still being developed – it is anticipated that this will be a major focus for this year.

We are supporting the 3rd National Forensic Nursing Conference in Sydney on August 26th 2015 with a major Feature on the impact of crime on victims and the role of the forensic health professional.

An increasing number of practitioners are contacting the Association for information on formal courses of study in this field and employment opportunities.

We continue to monitor the industrial issues between jurisdictions regarding.

We conducted a survey amongst all members regarding their current and future needs regarding role development and career advancement. Networking, establishing standards, clearer role demarcation between Forensic medical and nursing role as well as opportunities for further education were the main features of member's needs.

We note that South Australia has now a well-established forensic nurse program working with Yarra Place Sexual Assault services, with expansion into the regional areas. This was the last jurisdiction to employ nurses in sexual assault services.

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

Nothing at this time

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not at this point in time.

Linda Starr

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Australian Nurse Teachers Society

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

- ANTS has reviewed membership numbers and is working towards improved marketing of the organisation to ensure future sustainability through attending events and marketing. Recently attended events (as sponsors include: College of Nursing Conference (Adelaide) , Moodle Moot conference (Sydney) future attendances will include Vascular Nurses Conference, Australasian Nurse Education Conference (NZ) through marketing at conferences and increased other marketing the memberships have increased across all states of Australia
- National remains managing most states with the exception of South Australia and Western Australia, other states have not re-established branch committees , but members are running education based events with the support of National Exec.
- ANTS 2015 award nominations have been called for - awaiting final submissions and decisions , current corporate sponsors is Pearson's Publishing company
- 2016 NNEC (national nurse education conference) to be held off in favour of a request to support NETNEP International Nursing Conference (from Elsevier) last held in southern hemisphere in 2010
ANTS has agreed to partner / support NETNEP and participate in conference management.
- AGM for 2015 to be held on May 16th 2015 in Sydney, current National Executive to remain ongoing in 2nd year of 2 year terms in positions. Call for 2 more National Exec Committee members has been tabled and nominations called for.

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

Nil at present

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at present

Michelle Girdler

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Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF)

May 2015

Recently elections were held for the ANMF Federal elected official positions. The successful candidates for the next four year term are:

Federal President:	Sally-Anne Jones (previously Federal Assistant President)
Federal Assistant President:	Marie Burgess (newly appointed)
Federal Secretary:	Lee Thomas (returned)
Federal Assistant Secretary:	Annie Butler (newly appointed)

Examples of major professional issues ANMF has dealt with over past six months:

Review of the ANF Competency Standards for Nurses in General Practice Project is completed, with final report submitted to the Australian Government Department of Health December 2014, and clearance for publication received in April 2015. The Standards will be available for nurses, midwives and other stakeholders on the ANMF Federal Office website, with a limited hard copy print run. The accompanying Standards toolkit will comprise self-assessment/peer appraisal tools; professional development plan; professional portfolio; sample advertisements, position descriptions, and interview questions. The new *National practice standards for nurses in general practice*, to be launched during the year at ANMF events, will be developed into an e-book during 2015.

NMBA Review of the Competency Standards for Registered Nurses

Julianne Bryce is on the research team for this NMBA commissioned and funded 18 month project led by Southern Cross University and the University of Technology, Sydney. Public consultations will commence soon.

Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) for Privately Practising Midwives (PPMs)

Letter sent to the Hon. Susan Ley MP, Federal Health Minister seeking written confirmation of decision to allow an extension of the expiry of the PII exemption for PPM's to December 2015. Welcome news is that COAG has now agreed to extend the exemption to December 2016.

Review of the National School Nursing Professional Practice Standards

Scheduled into the 2012 publication of the *National School Nursing Professional Practice Standards* by the ANMF was a review of the document in 2014. Accordingly, in November 2014 the ANMF called for submissions and feedback has been received on the Standards. Responses received will form the basis for a short survey to be posted on the Federal Office website mid year. Information elicited from this second phase of the review will assist in final revision of the Standards.

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

Graduate nurses and midwives campaign. A national graduate nurse and midwife working group has been established following an initial roundtable discussion held late 2014. The group's objectives are:

- Recommend changes to the collection of workforce data, data mining and minimum data set and their associated definitions
- Develop myth busters to address the myths of graduating nurses and midwives
- Identify and recommend mechanisms to communicate and collaborate with government and other service providers regarding graduate transition and available resources
- Contribute to the identification of research topics regarding recruitment and retention of early career (year one and year two)/nursing and midwifery graduates in the Australian context.

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Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA): The ANMF is one of the seven founding members of the NRHA. Along with CRANaplus, ACN, and ACM, the ANMF represents the interests of rural and remote nurses and midwives on the Alliance. The 13th National Rural Health Conference will be held in Darwin, 24–27 May 2015, titled *Support the People, Places, Possibilities of rural and remote Australia*. For registration go to <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/13nrhc/register>. As nurses and midwives make up a large component of the health care workforce in rural and remote areas this is an important conference for voicing our views on improving health for people in country Australia.

Upcoming Federal budget and impact on nursing and midwifery professions and health and aged care in general.

*Elizabeth Foley
ANMF Federal Professional Officer*

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APNA (Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association)

For CoNNO Member Information:

- **New APNA CEO Ms Alexis Hunt commences 27th April 2015**
- **AGM @ National Conference May 14th**
 - Nil constitutional changes on agenda
- **APNA Annual Conference “Brave to Bold” Gold Coast Convention Centre May 13-16th**
www.apnaconference.asn.au
 - Action packed program across the spectrum of Primary Health Care from cradle to grave General Practice nursing, through sexual health and refugee health.
 - International speakers include:
 - Dr Sheila Tlou
 - is the Director of the UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Eastern and Southern Africa.
 - She is a former Member of Parliament and Minister of Health of the Republic of Botswana (2004-2008).
 - She is also former Professor of Nursing at the University of Botswana and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in Primary Health Care for Anglophone Africa.
 - She has conducted research and taught courses to nursing, pre-medical and social science students on Gender issues relating to HIV/AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and Ageing and Older Persons.
 - She has been involved in the AIDS response from the time the epidemic started in Botswana in 1985.
 - She has worked to increase community awareness of HIV and AIDS in Botswana using youth groups, nongovernmental organizations, and grassroots women’s organizations.
 - Dr Mary Moller
 - is an advanced registered nurse practitioner who is dually certified as a clinical specialist in adult psychiatric-mental health nursing and a psychiatric rehabilitation practitioner.
 - She is an Associate Professor at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma (WA, USA), where she is Lead Faculty for the Undergraduate Psychiatric Nursing Program and developing a Doctor of Nursing Practice program for psychiatric-mental health nursing.
 - She is in practice as a psychiatric ARNP conducting tele-mental health and as an attending ARNP at a 16-bed evaluation and treatment inpatient program.
 - From January 2009-August to 2014 she was Director of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialty at the Yale University School of Nursing.
 - She has received numerous awards including induction as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, President of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association from 2009-2010, and Distinguished Alumnus from the University of Nebraska College of Nursing Medical Center.
- **APNA Annual Post Conference forum Monday 18 May 2015, 9am -1pm at Old Parliament House, Canberra**
 - **“An international perspective on primary health care nursing: A cost and care effective force for change”**
 - This forum provides a unique opportunity to hear leading international speakers outline the contribution that innovative models of primary health care nursing are making to improving health outcomes and addressing the cost and effectiveness challenges facing health systems around the world. It will also be a chance to discuss lessons that can be applied to the challenges facing the Australian healthcare system.

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

- **Nursing in General Practice (NiGP) Program funded by Australian Government DOH, due for completion 30th June 15.**

All 9 projects are well on track. Key activities:

1. Healthy Practices support and advisory service: Identification of six pilot practices and six Nurse Advisers; successful workshop with Nurse Advisers project materials being finalised; pilot of support service now going live.
2. Foundations of General Practice Nursing orientation program: Nationally 2-day workshops & Online learning course development underway.
3. Continuing education for nurses in general practice: Six online learning modules and webinars and 2-day workshops nationally.
4. Education to achieve behavioral change in patients: Dr Rick Kausman engaged to deliver 6 x 2-day workshops plus follow up online support. A/Prof Rhian Parker undertaking supporting literature review.
5. ML nurse clinic demonstration projects: Focus is on MLs completing their deliverables and producing resources as sustainable outcomes of project. Three/four short videos have been commissioned, featuring project participants.
6. Marketing campaign: Resources and messages in development. Microsite launched.
7. Leadership development: National workshop, Online and face-to-face networks have been established.
8. Education and career framework: Two literature reviews (undergraduate placements and education and career framework) and a scoping paper (transition to practice) have been drafted and released to Board and Expert Advisory Group. A small workshop was held early Feb to outline a draft framework, and an EAG teleconference held later in Feb. Focus groups are underway and a pre-conference policy forum scheduled. On track to meet final project deliverables of three scoping papers with options and recommendations.
9. Data and surveys: University of Wollongong commissioned to analyse existing workforce survey data, and to develop a new survey instrument for administration by mid-year.

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

- Nil at present

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Nil at present

Julianne Badenoeh

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Australian Student And Novice Nurse Association (ASANNA)

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

In early Dec 2015, ASANNA held its inaugural training event in Canberra. This was the first face to face meeting for many of our representatives, with many of our representatives and executive travelling across Australia to attend. The event was a wonderful success, bringing together the committee to both develop the skills required to lead ASANNA into the future, and plan our future directions. Our workshops were led by a high calibre of speakers including Dr Louise Mahler, Nic Baines from All My Admin, Kathy Bell from APNA, Kathleen McGlaughlin from ACN, Lee Thomas from ANMF, Colleen Gibbs from CATSINaM and the wonderful Dave Townsend. We learnt about advocacy, goal setting, vocal intelligence and public speaking, social media and regular media, and worked on developing our strategic goals, teamwork and future planning.

ASANNA attended the CATSINaM parliamentary breakfast this year and have taken part in the CATSINaM cultural respect workshop which we highly recommend.

As ASANNA is part of the Close The Gap steering committee, we also attended the release of the Close The Gap Strategic Priorities report, coinciding with the Federal Liberal party release of the 'Closing the Gap' report.

In December of last year, we were invited to attend the ANMF graduate nurse round table meeting in Sydney, which we attended with great enthusiasm. ASANNA has become part of this working party also.

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?

Stephanie Jeremy RN

Australian Student And Novice Nurse Association (ASANNA) Co-Founder, Director and Co-President

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Reporting Template for CoNNO Members

This reporting template has been developed to assist sharing of information between CoNNO members and to identify particular issues of importance to nursing organisations.

Please provide a written report of no more than 500 words outlining relevant activity for reporting at CoNNO meeting.

Name of organisation: AWHNA Inc

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

There has been a recent external review of 2 LHD's in NSW. Outcome for one Local Health District(LHD) pending written documentation, is that 3 Womens Health Nurses (WHN) have had their WHCNC role deleted.VR is a probable option

Second LHD- 3 WHN's have had been given a change to their job description which means they are no longer WHN's as such but will be offered positions in a more general WH role ie., child and family or DV

Other WHN's in another LHD is sensing something similar- so I can report generally that there seems to be a wave of unease and job role instability for WHN's across the State

Vale Shairon Fray, inaugural Nurse trainer for NSW FGM Program of which many WHN's attended, died this week.I attended a memorial service on behalf of the AWHNA Inc and paid tribute to her womens health legacy

On a brighter note the Annual WHN update was held in Adelaide with great success.

Next year will be 30 years of the AWHNA Inc so despite the loss of the WHN role in some LHD's I anticipate that WHN's from the last 3 decades will assemble to honour and pay tribute to the positive impact that WHN's have had on the lives of women and their families across the lifespan since its inception

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

Keep WHN role on the Agenda-We realise the uniqueness of this role in NSW

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

The role that WHN's have been providing is under threat in NSW- any National commitment to support our Association would be very much appreciated

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Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA) CoNNO Report

Name of organisation: AWMA

We have close to 3000 members with 81% being nurses. Nursing members are classified as nurse practitioner, registered nurse, enrolled nurse or student. We are currently looking into how we can facilitate membership for patient care assistants (however titled). We acknowledge that many are providing wound care in aged care facilities as well as the home environment.

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

We hope to have our organisation rebranding launch later this year and we will notify you when we officially become **Wounds Australia**. We have held multiple forums as we move to truly National Organisation and all state and territory Presidents have agreed to dissolution of their associations. An amazing amount of time has been generating in developing our new Constitution and Operations Manual.

Our NHMRC Venous Leg Ulcer Guidelines are being updated and we are now participating on a global level with the European Wound Management Association.

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

We will be hosting our second Corporate Partners forum in July 2015. Any organisation with any experience we would value your insight.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

We encourage likeminded members to also consider being members of the Australian Health Care Reform Alliance (AHCRA) <http://www.healthreform.org.au/>. This coalition of peak health groups is active in lobbying for a fair and equitable Australian health care system.

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

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Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (CNSA)

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

In January 2015, CNSA welcomes its new President, Dr Raymond Chan and acknowledges the significant contribution of Immediate Past President Sandy McKiernan to the Society and cancer nursing as a profession. Dr Raymond Chan holds a joint appointment as the Director of Research and Innovation, West Moreton Hospital and Health District and NHMRC Health Professional Research Fellow, Queensland University of Technology. CNSA is growing from strength to strength; now representing over 1100 cancer nurses across Australia (which reflects >200% of membership growth over the past 3 years).

18th CNSA Winter Congress: Perth from with 14-16th June 2015 with three international key note speakers Dr Carrie Tompkins Stricker, Professor Alex Molasiotis and Professor Lesley Fallowfield to join a diverse range of Australian cancer experts to present a program based on the Congress theme of "Expanding the Possibilities". Congress 2015 will focus on areas that cancer nurses can look to further their career choices, including specialist breast cancer care, radiation oncology and advanced practice. For more information please visit the congress website - <http://www.cnsawintercongress.com.au/>.

Central Venous Access Devices Guideline Review Committee: The majority of cancer nurses are responsible for the maintenance of central venous access devices (CVADs) on a daily basis. While a number of clinical guidelines are available, clinicians often are uncertain of their quality and relevance to cancer care. The CNSA and eviQ Standard Cancer Treatments Online recently initiated a project that aims to direct cancer nurses to easily accessible, relevant evidence-based clinical guidelines for CVAD management. The project team is currently in the process of developing a reference tool that outlines the quality of existing clinical guidelines for CVAD management and their relevance to cancer care. It is expected that this tool will be useful for clinicians at the point of care. The team consisted of nurse researchers, infection control experts, CVAD specialist nurses, paediatric cancer nurses, and eviQ content authors.

Development of New Regional Group and Specialist Practice Networks: Queensland Regional Group has been established, the Cancer Nurse Practitioner Specialist Practice Network and the Venous Access Device Management Specialist Practice Network.

Overall, the vibrancy of the Society is so palpable and is reflected in the growth of membership and establishment of new groups.

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

Obtaining Australian workforce statistics ie. CNSA would like to know the number of those who identified themselves as cancer nurses in Australia.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Accessing professional development opportunities for Presidents/President Elects/EO
- Access to organisational resources for professional associations eg Constitutional Review, Advocacy.

Julie Calvert

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Continence Nurses Society Australia (CoNSA) Inc

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

In the past 6 months, CoNSA has launched our new website – www.consa.org.au at our AGM in September 2014. The website is gradually developing as a resource for continence nurses throughout Australia with further information to support the educational and professional needs of our members.

CoNSA was successfully incorporated in November 2014 in Victoria. This followed a reviewed Constitution/Rules being accepted by CoNSA members at our AGM. Incorporation will allow us more opportunities to look at funding grants for projects.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our continence nursing practice standards which were developed in 1999 and have not been formally reviewed since then. We are currently in draft phase and will gain input from CoNSA members at the workshop we have planned at the Continence Foundation of Australia national conference on November 2015.

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

We are currently awaiting the completion of the review of Registered Nurse Practice Standards to help support the framework for the CoNSA continence nursing Practice Standards.

One of CoNSA's biggest challenges is that all committee members and members, generally, support the activities of CoNSA in their own spare time at their own expense.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

*Janie Thompson
President*

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Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand)

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

- The CDNM has agreed to support current moves to establish accreditation by specialist professional bodies of courses preparing specialist practitioners
- Universities are discontinuing nursing and midwifery courses. The University of Western Australia is discontinuing all nursing courses and University of Wollongong and RMIT University have discontinued midwifery courses.
- Cost and accessibility of clinical places is being discussed by Universities Australia and the current situation is considered to be unsustainable.

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

No issues raised

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No issues identified for discussion with CoNNO

Professor Rhonda Griffiths

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CRANApus

The professional Body for Remote & Isolated Health

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

- Negotiating ongoing recurrent funding with the DOH
- Undertaken a successful final audit to become a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and fully compliant with ASQA standards
- Continue to develop our Reconciliation Action Plan
- Development of the model for a transition program for novice (newly graduated) nurses into remote health practice
- Development of a strategy as part of the modernization of the Medicare system to improve RAN ability to improve uptake of health assessment to improve the prevention, early detection, and management of chronic disease
- Planning for our impact / involvement with PHNs that will have significant remote and isolated areas to service
- Moved the location of our Alice Springs office to co-locate with the Centre for Remote Health (Joint initiative between Flinders & Charles Darwin University)
- Remote specific Paediatric and Practical Clinical Skills courses developed and being piloted
- Launch of BSS information DVD narrated by Jack Thompson available free from CRANApus. This DVD is a finalist in the 2015 New York International Film Festival.

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

- Position Statements about specialist areas of healthcare within context of remote and isolated areas:
 - CRANApus is keen to continue to partner with the specialist professional nursing bodies to develop and disseminate position statements to highlight the challenges and the actions required to ensure people in remote and isolated Australia have equitable access to specialist areas of care.
 - Collaborative development of an Older Persons, Palliative Care and Birthing on country position statements currently underway.
- Raise awareness amongst your members who work in Regional, Rural and Remote Communities of their ability to access free of charge the "CRANApus Bush Support Services" – a free, confidential, 24/7 psychological telephone service for themselves and their family, designed to assist during crisis, improve resilience and help to improve retention of the workforce. To access resources you can disseminate, contact Colleen the Director of Support services on colleen@crana.org.au
- CRANApus support services encourages health professionals volunteering for overseas service to register with us before travelling for free psychological support during and after their return home. Contact: Therese@crana.org.au

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil

Christopher Cliffe

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Discharge Planning Association (DPA)

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

Planning and facilitating the annual Discharge Planning Association Professional Day continues to be very successful and (October) 2014 was no different. We had very good feedback and we hope to replicate that same result for this year. Topics included- Wound care Update, ACAT update 2014, Elder Abuse, Seamless Transitions initiatives, Aboriginal Identification in Hospitals-Quality Improvement project and End of Life in the Community. The Association again offered 6 x \$500 travel/accommodation scholarships to assist DP Association members attend our 2014 Professional Day. These scholarships are available for those eligible members who live outside the Sydney Metropolitan Area and wish to attend the professional day.

The Executives are in the process of planning 2015 Professional Day and perspective approaching speakers and we plan to hold the event at the same venue as last year. That is, Northern Sydney Education & Conference Centre at Macquarie Hospital North Ryde on Wednesday 28th October 2015. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and the day will be free of charge for all members.

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

Over the years there have been many enquires regarding availability of a course about Discharge planning. DPA have proposed the development of a course, however, following some research there is a "Care Coordination Course" on the Health Education & Training Institute (HETI) website that is 20 minutes in duration but only can be accessed by RNs working in the public sector.

I have sent a letter to HETI requesting advice on how private sector RNs working in the area of Discharge Planning can access the course and/or are they able to assist the DPA in establishing an identical course.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

As above

Thelma De Lisser-Howarth

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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?

- **Educational events:**
 - Preparation for the 'Walk on the Wild Side' (WOWS8) Symposium to be held in Brisbane in May 2015
 - 'Everything you want to know about cannabis' workshops held in Melbourne, Perth (and soon in Adelaide)
 - Post conference analysis of DANA 'Speak Up' Annual Conference held in Sydney in June 2014
 - Planning underway for DANA 'Many Faces of Addiction Forum' to be held in Sydney in August 2015
 - Dunedin Nurses seminar series held in Dunedin 2014
- **Meetings:**
 - DANA annual planning meeting held in Brisbane in February 2015 – 'Strategic Planning'
 - DANA representatives attended the 'Smoking Roundtable' held in Sydney in October
 - DANA trade stands at:
 - APSAD November 2014 Adelaide,
 - CATSINAM 2014 Perth,
 - Cutting Edge November 2014 Dunedin
- **Other:**
 - Two newsletters (DANA Unwrapped) written and distributed: December 2014 and February 2015
 - Biennial Members' Satisfaction Survey conducted
 - Review and implementation of an invigorated 'scholarship strategy'
 - Meeting with ACMHN
 - Invitation for keynote talk at the APNA Annual Conference 'The Ice Age'
 - Joint submission with CATSINaM and ACN to the Senate Inquiry on Hepatitis C
 - Presentation at the NSW Opioid Treatment Review at the NSW Ministry of Health
 - Attended meeting convened by Dr Frances Hughes, Nursing Advisor to Queensland Health to discuss 'credentialling'

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

- Organisational structures to accommodate members from Asian countries

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Jennifer Harland
President

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

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Flight Nurses Australia

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

In the last six months FNA has:

- Revised logo and organisations form templates
- Revised membership forms and membership advertising poster
- Moved member transactions to include electronic transaction
- Have had a slight increase in our membership
- Commenced a national marketing campaign and contacted aeromedical organisations across Australia
- Developed a social media policy
- Launched our new website www.flightnursesaustralia.com.au
- Launched Twitter site
- Strengthened links between FNA and NZFNA
- Sent out a monthly e-newsletter to members
- Commenced scanning and archiving organisation's historical documents
- Provided Flight Nurse representation to the National Aeromedical Standards Development Committee
- Wrote response to NMBA regarding
 - Proposed Expanded Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines
 - Draft registration standard for endorsement of registered nurses and / or midwives to supply and / or administer scheduled medicines under protocol
- Wrote joint submission with Aeromedical Society of Australasia to:
 - CASA re NPRM regulation of aeroplane and Helicopter 'Ambulance Function' Flights as Air Transport Operations
- Joint National conference held in Brisbane in September 2014 with Aeromedical Society of Australasia and the Aeromedicine Association of Australasia
- Held the first FNA annual strategic planning meeting in Brisbane in September 2014
- Reviewed scholarship strategy and guidelines ready for release to members

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

No issues identified for discussion with CoNNO

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No issues identified for discussion with CoNNO

Genevieve Brideson
Committee Member FNA
23/04/2015

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

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Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia (GENCA)

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

- Administration and secretariat now managed by Association Professionals;
- Launched new website, with membership database – membership renewals, membership applications, event registrations
- Membership growth – currently 1,070 members
- Participated in the development of and launched “A Clinician’s guide: Caring for people with gastrostomy tubes and devices” – launched 1 December 2014
- Released updated Position Statement – Nurse Endoscopist – March 2015
- Strategic Planning session held with Board and Regional managers – February 2015

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?

Catherine Conway
President

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Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia

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

The 6th Biennial MCaFHNA Conference held from April 8-11 2015 *'Our Voice, Our Future' Researching, reviewing and revitalising our profession*, held at the Crown, Perth.

There were 460 attendees. This is lower than usually. The low numbers were anticipated but we determined to hold the conference there in respect of our member group in Perth. The next conference is being planned in Melbourne in 2017 to incorporate the 100 year celebrations of MCaFHN in both Melbourne and Tasmania. We anticipate strong attendances.

Stages 2 (broad community consultation via online qualitative survey) and 3 (modified Delphi survey of MCaFHNs) of our Nationals standards project have received full ethical approvals in Australia from both Flinders University and Griffith University. We are awaiting letters of permission from a few networks through which to distribute our online survey. Ethical approval from New Zealand remains outstanding; however we have Australian permission to release the survey to the Australian cohort once all permissions are received. The status of the project was presented at the national conference.

We held our annual national face-to-face meeting in Perth. The strategic outcomes of this meeting related strongly to the development of a functional business plan with a view to sourcing financial sponsorship and employing a professional officer.

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

Can you please agree to have the stage 2 (broad community consultation) survey distributed amongst your networks? Can anyone help us with setting up a functional business plan?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Support for organisations with matters of governance and financial management.

Julian Grant

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Nursing Informatics Australia (NIA)

Report for CoNNO Meeting: 1 May 2015

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

The Nursing Informatics Australia (NIA) Conference will be held on Monday, 3 August 2015 in Brisbane. The NIA Conference is held each year in conjunction with Health Informatics Conference (HIC), the annual conference of the Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA).

The theme for the 2015 conference is: Driving reform: Digital health is everyone's business. The NIA committee has been focussing on planning for a successful conference: disseminating information, securing speakers and reviewing submitted conference papers.

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

Marian Linnane

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Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc ...O.H.N.N.G.

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

We have just held our 19TH National Conference in Sydney 7-9th March. This was a huge success with over 100 delegates registered. The three-day event showcased speakers from around the world as well as local and national nursing speakers. As we run concurrently with the surgical scientific meeting this will be the 4th year the ENT surgeons have sponsored our attendance at their welcome reception and gala dinner. We are also invited to attend any lectures during their scientific meeting.

At this national meeting we assisted in the sponsorship for 5 nurses from around Australia to attend the meeting. We also sponsored a scientist from Queensland who has created a new saliva test for Cancer screening, and an engineer who has developed bionic voice prosthesis. We heard from leaders in their own field, including the successful advances in the use of robotics in laryngeal surgery and laryngeal transplant. These are both amazing developments in the treatment and quality of life for our Head and Neck Cancer patients.

Once again we had a great attendance from our New Zealand colleagues.

QLD

The highlight of the second half of the year for OHNNG Qld was the Gold Coast Study Day Saturday September 16th. The day covered both adult and paediatric ENT and included a lecture on Robotic (ENT) Surgery. The day was well attended (80) and the local ENT surgeons provided terrific content. Other OHNNG events throughout the year consisted of the annual cadaver dissection courses at UQ. In Queensland OHNNG remains currently involved with the patient led Head and Neck Cancer Support Group and is supporting them in their aim to hold a Head and Neck Cancer awareness event. Such an event would be aimed at the general public but also at GPs, Dentists and the wider medical community to be mindful of voice changes, persistent oral ulcers and neck lumps greater than three weeks duration. The ultimate aim is to have an annual awareness event and eventually for it to be held simultaneously across the country.

NSW

State Coordinator Gai Shylan completed her three education sessions for NSW with the last two on Endoscopic Sinus Surgery and Facial Prosthetic's. OHNNG Education sessions remain popular & are well attended by nurses from public, private & community facilities, including ward, OPD, OT & peri-op clinic staff.

TAS

State Coordinator Dani Donegan ran her second education day in Burnie on the 22nd November with the theme of Paediatric ENT. The day was well attended by 26 nurses from around the state. The program was full and varied with all speakers providing interesting and informative presentations. A highlight was the amazing Esther O'Halloran, a mother of a child born with oesophageal atresia, who gave us an insight into the roller-coaster ride a parent goes through when their child is born with a life threatening disorder. Her story was courageous, heart breaking & had many of us in tears. Esther gave us a chance to look beyond the clinical & reminded us not to forget the emotional aspect of our work. Feedback, again, was very positive with the majority of people rating the day very highly.

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VIC

Our second study day was in November and was held at the Olympus Education Facility. The morning focused on the nose and sinuses. Presenters spoke on the anatomy of the nose and sinuses, ENT emergencies, FESS, Rhinoplasty and Septoplasty. I presented on the new Perioperative guidelines – Fatigue in the Perioperative environment. This guideline is certainly food for thought and generated a lot of discussion and certainly could be translated across the board to all areas of nursing. The afternoon saw participants moving around four stations: practicing sinus endoscopy, touring the education facility and learning how Olympus can assist and support us, viewing and discussing broken down flexible endoscopes and touring the national service centre – an eye opener for all. The afternoons' activities proved to be very informative

ACT

State Coordinator Judy Redpath held a Study day titled '*All About Ears*'. Approximately 30 people attended this session and excellent feedback was obtained. All who attended had an interest in ENT, with specialties in Anaesthetics, Paediatrics and Theatre. We had two consultant surgeons and a Senior Registrar speaking who were able to present very informative lectures ranging from grommets, anatomy of the ear, mastoidectomy and cochlear implantation. OHNNG is slowly expanding in the ACT and hopefully over the next few years, we will see a steady increase in membership.

SA

State Coordinator Karen Mahoney held the last education evening in December. Dr. Giri Krishnan talked to us about Laryngeal Disease and the possibility of doing Laryngeal transplants in the future. We continue to share the surgeons Head & Neck education sessions bi monthly on different topics and aspects of Head & Neck Cancer treatments and techniques.

WA

State CoOrdinator Tooeey Trang Tran.

ran her last education session for the year on 13th November – facial aesthetic plastic and reconstructive surgery "where function & form meets", we had 15 members & 4 non-members attend.

Perth has already had the first education session for 2015 with another three others planned for May, August and November, with the possibility of a full study day sometime soon.

Membership

A reflection of the continuing efforts and hard work of our state coordinators has seen yet another increase in our numbers on all fronts over the last 12 months. We have 555 listed members on the data base, 320 financial members, (increase of 57 members from 2014), and 147 new members, an increase of 23 new members from previous year.

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

Not at present

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not at present

Tracey Nicholls

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Palliative Care Nurses Australia (PCNA)

The PCNA Committee met in January 2015 to review the previous calendar year of activities and to set a 3-year strategic plan for our organisation. Highlighted in the forward plan are strategies to increase connection with membership through providing palliative care nursing education with a particular focus on web-based rather than face to face opportunities.

The meeting also highlighted the importance of palliative care nurses contributing to and conducting research into improved client, family, professional and organisational outcomes in our sector. For this reason research has for the first time been included as a discrete strategy in the PCNA strategic organisational plan.

PCNA will be conducting pre-conference workshops at the Palliative Care Australia conference in September. This will provide us with broader reach to generalist clinicians working in end of life/ non-specialist palliative care.

PCNA recently met via teleconference with CRANApus to discuss and provide input to a palliative care position paper being developed by them. We look forward to future collaboration.

In March 2015, we sent representation to the launch of the Lowitja Institute's Recognise Health campaign at Parliament House in Canberra. PCNA is proud to be a member organisation of the coalition of non-government health organisations calling for constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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?

PCNA would like CoNNO to contribute to the PCNA eNewsletter to outline and clarify to our members the importance of PCNA being a member organisation of CoNNO.

Kym Griffin
Secretary PCNA
8 April 2015

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Renal Society of Australasia

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

RSA have been extremely busy these past six months

Work is continuing to finalise the RSA's 2015-18 Strategic Plan. We are aiming to be in a position to launch this important document which will guide our work over the next three years during the annual conference.

The conference committee are in full swing organising for June 15-17th in Perth this year.

A new logo has been developed and approved reflecting the scope of renal nursing today and our webpage has been upgraded.

A Governance review is currently being undertaken as it is acknowledged that a robust governance framework will provide the pathway to a stronger RSA. Significant work is being done

Constitution review:

This work is being performed by external consultants Associations Forum Pty Ltd

Bylaws to outline the sub-groups

Financial year changed to 1 April to 31 March to ensure the AGM can continue to be held at the annual conference.

Board Charter, outlining the role, responsibilities

Terms of Reference for branches, sub-groups and other committees and representatives.

Together with internal policies and procedures that will outline the support provided to RSA branches, sub-groups and other committees.

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

There any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Beth Hore (Amega)

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