



CoNNMO

Coalition of National **Nursing & Midwifery** Organisations

Chair and Secretariat Report

May 2020

Marian Linnane
CoNNMO Chair

Julianne Bryce
CoNNMO Secretariat
ANMF Senior Federal Professional Officer

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CoNNMO Chair and Secretariat Report November 2019 to May 2020

CoNNMO Council Members

Marian Linnane (Australasian Institute of Digital Health: Nursing and Midwifery), CoNNMO Chair
Tracey Nicholls (Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Nurses Group), CoNNMO Deputy Chair
Julianne Bryce (Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation), CoNNMO Secretariat
Shelley Reid (Australian College of Neonatal Nurses)
Michelle Girdler (Australian Nurse Teachers Society Inc.)
Louise Dearman (National Enrolled Nurses Association)
Colleen Blums (Drug and Alcohol Nurses Australasia)
Jo Perks (Australian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association)
Leanne Boase (Australian College of Nurse Practitioners)

The CoNNMO Council meets face to face twice a year (if required) and via teleconference twice a year, and as required. Council have met three times since the October member meeting.

Council elections

The Secretariat called for nominations for one Council position immediately following the October 2019 member meeting. Louise Dearman was re-elected unopposed for a second term. In February. Marian Linnane, current CoNNMO Chair, completed her second term on Council. Following the call for nominations, Marian was also re-elected unopposed. Further CoNNMO Council elections will be held for four positions, three in October and one in November 2020.

CoNNMO Council Meetings

CoNNMO Council meetings were held face to face on 31 January 2020 in Melbourne and by videoconference on 31 March and 28 April 2020. At the videoconference meeting late March, Council determined that the face to face May member would be cancelled due to travel restrictions and social distancing requirements. It was determined that in its place a two and a half hour virtual CoNNMO meeting would be held using zoom in order for CoNNMO member representatives and observers to receive important updates from senior nursing and midwifery leaders. The meeting agenda, invited guests, speakers and logistical arrangements, were discussed. The next CoNNMO Council meeting is scheduled to be held by videoconference on 19 June 2020.

New Member Application

No further new applications for CoNNMO membership have been received since the last member meeting. The Australian and New Zealand Society of Occupational Medicine (ANZSOM), whose application for membership was accepted at the October member meeting, will be attending their first meeting as a member in May 2020.

Action Items from May 2019

There are no outstanding items from the October 2020 CoNNMO Member Meeting.

Communications

The CoNNMO website is maintained by the Secretariat. Many and varied enquiries for information are received via the contact page and responses provided by the Secretariat. The CoNNMO Secretariat has continued to circulate a range of emails broadly relevant to CoNNMO member organisations. These emails relate to: the COVID-19 pandemic information, events, media releases, meetings, newsletters, projects, submissions, consultations, research and surveys. Some require CoNNMO member involvement; some are for the purpose of information only; and others require further circulation to our member organisations' respective memberships. The CoNNMO website provides information about the on-going work of CoNNMO and our respective CoNNMO member organisations. For further information go to: www.connmo.org.au.

Funding

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Federal Office is responsible for the CoNNMO Secretariat. The CoNNMO Secretariat team is based in the ANMF Federal Office located in Melbourne. Since 2007, the ANMF Federal Office has been funded by the Australian Government Department of Health to undertake the Secretariat operations of CoNNMO. In June 2017, the Australian Government Department of Health funded the ANMF Federal Office to conduct the operations of CoNNMO for a further three years, until 30 June 2020. A three year Deed of Variation to the Standard Funding Agreement Schedule for the operations of CoNNMO was signed by both parties on 19 June 2017. The ANMF and the Department signed a further Deed of Variation to this funding agreement in May 2020.

Secretariat Team Overview

The Secretariat team consists of: Julianne Bryce, ANMF Federal Professional Officer; Sotiria Stefanis, ANMF Federal Finance Officer; and Anastasia Shianis, Administrative Officer for the ANMF Federal Professional Team.

Anastasia Shianis organises the CoNNMO member and Council meetings including travel and accommodation, attends to agendas and minutes, maintains CoNNMO files, coordinates email traffic, provides information technology support, formats reports, submissions and surveys, maintains the CoNNMO website, and accommodates the requests of CoNNMO members and Council. Julianne Bryce and Elizabeth Foley coordinate member and Council meetings, field enquiries, draft documents and prepare reports and submissions to the Australian Government Department of Health. Sotiria Stefanis and Dorothy Abicic maintain accounts, financial records and prepare balance sheets for the Department and the external auditors. In addition to the CoNNMO Secretariat role, Julianne Bryce is a permanent member of the CoNNMO Council.

Use of the Secretariat's state Branch facilities to host face to face member meetings continues to significantly reduce the cost associated with venue hire at meetings held in Melbourne and Sydney, allowing for the focus of expenditure to be on travel and accommodation for member representatives to attend meetings.

Upcoming CoNNMO Meetings

Although still to be confirmed due to the travel restrictions and social distancing requirements for COVID-19, the plan is for the next CoNNMO member meeting to be held in Canberra on Thursday 8 October 2020, at Parliament House.