

## **CoNNO Meeting – Friday 5 September 2014 Member Reports**

List of member reports:

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia  
Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control  
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc  
Australia and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society  
Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing  
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 Day Surgery Nurses Association  
Australian Dermatology Nurses Association  
Australian Diabetes Educators Association  
Australian Nurse Teachers Society  
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation  
Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association  
Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association  
Australian Student and Novice Nurse Association  
Australian Women's Health Nurse Association  
Australian Wound Management Association  
CATSINaM  
Continence Nurses Society of Australia  
Discharge Planning Association  
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia  
Flight Nurses Australia Inc  
Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia  
Nursing Informatics Australia  
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc  
Palliative Care Nurses Australia

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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?**

- Reviewing Business plan
- Liaising with Ministry of Health regarding Audiometry Nurse hearing services across the state and also continuing to update the Audiometry History and Audiometry Report Forms.
- Annual Conference this year is 29/10/2014- 31/10/2014 in Sydney at the Coogee Beach Hotel.
- In the process of standardising Audiometry Nurse Hearing handouts.
- In consultation with the Hearnnet group(hearing learning modules on web site.
- For Hearing awareness week Sydney based Audiometry nurses are promoting hearing at Ministry of health Sydney office.

### **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 Huempel*

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Coalition of National Nursing Organisations

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

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

The college has had a change in leadership with Marija Juraja now stepping into the Immediate Past President position, Belinda Henderson into the President position and Ramon Shaban into the new President Elect position.

ACIPC Executive Council have been reviewing the current structure of the standing committees. Two have now amalgamated: the Special Interest Groups Committee has moved into the Education Committee. This amalgamation has been due to the success and strategic planning under the leadership of both chairs and committee members. The most major piece of work for the past few months for the EC has been the finalization of the 3 year strategic plan and the amendment of ACIPC Constitution (which will go the membership for voting, prior to the college conference).

- The college has been working on several position statements and recently submitted a response to the second draft AS/4187 Standard.
- The Governance Committee have been working on several new procedures that are in the process of being endorsed. The current Operational Guidelines will be replaced by the overarching governance policies.
- The EC Directors Pack has been reviewed and amended to incorporate the new policies.
- This year is the first time the college has funded its own research with 2 Research Grants being awarded to 2 successful member applications.
- The college has also successfully launched its Mentoring on the Board program. 3 college members are being mentored by 3 ACIPC board members. This also includes access to three modules over 3 months to develop their understanding of board workings (financial, leadership, governance and fiscal).
- The college will be launching at the college conference several national awards in various categories. This is in recognition of the excellent work some of our members have undertaken.
- There is a selection review currently being undertaken of all submissions for the annual Covidien Awards, that will be announced at the college conference dinner.
- The college is also actively exploring the appointment of its first national Patron.
- The college is now working towards final preparation for the annual national conference in 2014. The 2015 conference forward planning has commenced.
- The college has held 33 events and reached over 880 members, with the most recent being ANTT, AMS and Journal Clubs.
- The college is currently working on new promotional material for International Infection Prevention Week.
- The college is in the process of preparing position statements, project plans, etc for the new position of Education Manager (thank you to CranaPlus and AGPN for assisting and sharing their information). This is to assist with future forecasting, delivery etc for all ACIPC educational events across Australasia.
- The college is currently building a new website that will meet the future needs of the members, as well as meet administrative requirements.

### **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  
September 5th Meeting 2014

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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?**

- 1.Submission to ANMAC re Nurse Practitioner education
- 2.Submission to AHPRA re BBV and Health Care Workers
- 3.Representation by members at World AIDS Conference held in Melbourne 8/14.Collaborations with US AIDS Nurses (ANAC – American Nurses in AIDS Coalition) and ANZANAC (Australia NZ AIDS Nurses) in hosting the Nurses Welcome and promoting a voice for nurses at the conference. Newsletter available on the ASHHNA website
- 4.Preparation for Sexual Health Conference to be held in Sydney in October – scholarships, poster and paper judging, AGM
5. Still trying to get the web site up and running.
6. Networks with nursing partners from neighbouring countries, especially Singapore – membership from the sexual health centre there.
7. Representation at ASHA (? Sexual health conference) and next year's ISSTD (International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research in Brisbane

### **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*  
Executive Member

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## Australia and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society

Report to Conno on ANZUNS activity

ANZUNS as the peak body for urological nursing in Australia offer members access to a range of initiatives which include:

### Access to a large network of like-minded peers

A significant benefit to belonging to the peak body for urology nursing in Australia and New Zealand is access to a large cohort of nurses with expertise and a special interest in excelling in practice

### Website

ANZUNS Inc. has a website [www.anzuns.org](http://www.anzuns.org) the purpose of which is to inform members, and other interested parties of:

- The aim of the society
- Contact details
- News from each State or Territory
- Forthcoming events
- Notices of the ASM
- Links to the ASM
- Prizes offered at the ASM
- Educational Opportunities and Fellowships

### Newsletter

ANZUNS Inc. produces a newsletter four times a year which is forwarded to all members. There is an additional special edition newsletter sent to members informing them of the midterm committee meeting each year.

### Special Interest Groups (sub specialty groups)

Special Interest Groups (SIG's) are sub craft groups for nurses with a specific interest area in urology practice. ANZUNS currently has 2 functioning Special Interest Groups:

- Nurse Practitioner's
- Uro Oncology

There has been an Expression of Interest in a theatre nursing group however, without a Chairperson, this group not active.



# Australia and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society

## ANZUNS Annual Scientific Meeting

The 2015 ASM will be held 11 – 13 April at the Adelaide convention and exhibition centre in conjunction with the Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand. ANZUNS meeting includes a full day of workshops and Special Interest Group meetings prior to the ASM. The ASM offers nurses the opportunity to showcase how they have undertaken to improve care for their patients through podium and poster presentations. The meeting also includes invited speakers from a range of faculties affiliated with urology nursing.

## Access to Professional Development Awards

Members are able to apply for annual professional development awards. This includes travel scholarship awards to enable nurses to visit centres of excellence in urology nursing as well as attend scientific meetings on a national and international level.

## Access to nursing guidelines

Members have access to clinical guidelines which have been developed for usage by members.

## Access to other educational opportunities

For the first time this year, ANZUNS will be hosting a symposium event for all members. This event will be held Saturday 6 December at the ANMF House in Melbourne. A diverse program is planned which will appeal to urology nurses working across many different specialty areas.

## ANZUNS Executive

The ANZUNS executive is a team of committed urology nurses who all volunteer their time in a number of positions to administer the business end of ANZUNS. The committee meet twice per year in person with an additional teleconference following the ASM. ANZUNS are keen to learn from other nursing craft groups about how their organisations function using volunteer time and maintain a sustainable organisation

*Donna Cowan*

## Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN

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

Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Society of Vascular Surgery combined with the Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN is scheduled for 11-13 October in Canberra, with the theme of '*Revolution and Evolution in Vascular and Endovascular Intervention*'.

In 2015 the ANZSVS is holding the conference off-shore (Hawaii) and due to financial constraints for nurse attendance the inaugural stand-alone Nursing Conference in 2015 to be held in Adelaide on 13 – 14 November combined with Podiatry Association and Medical Imaging Nurses Association (MINA) SA Branch, titled "*Working Together for an Integrated Approach*"

Vascular Nursing Week was celebrated 20-27 July with multiple sites across Australia participating to promote the speciality of Vascular. Activities included: workplace displays, competitions, educational evening and cadaver workshop.

#### STATE REPORTS:

Victoria: currently at 20 members. Education evening held with a renal focus on chronic disease management and AVF creation and effect of anaesthesia.

Queensland: Currently at 33 members. Combined education night on 27 March with AWMA to promote Wound Awareness Week. Case Study presentations included: healing a long-term leg ulcer; skincare; negative pressure therapy and new treatment modalities.

New South Wales: Undergone a name change to identify the ACT members and the branch is now officially the NSW & ACT Society of Vascular Nursing INC. with a member competition to develop a new logo. Publication of an article in the Journal of Vascular Nursing as a collaboration between the Chapter President/National Secretary and Vascular Medical Officer on a single-centre, retrospective review on the 'short-term clinical outcomes of patients who underwent endovascular stent grafting'.

South Australia: Combined education night with the SA Orthopaedic Nurses "High Risk Foot" in May followed by an 'oedema and compression' workshop in June. The Journal club enjoys continued success with a new format. Two members were nominated and awarded the Team Clinical Practice at the SA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards for their contribution in the Vascular Rehabilitation Team at their workplace.

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

Nil at this time

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

Nil at this time

*Karen Simunov - ANZSVN CoNNO Representative*

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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 577
2. The ACCYPN's next conference which will be held at the Pullman International in Cairns on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2014. The main theme is 'Are the Children Well' with the sub themes being acute, community and continuum of care. Early bird registration closes the 19<sup>th</sup> of September. The key note speakers include Robyn Moore (The power of the word), Jennifer Ashton (Safety and Wellness), Dr Lynore Geia (Indigenous Health), Carmen Tang and Naomi Kikkawa (Refugee/Multicultural Health) and Prof Debora Picone (Safety and Quality) and Dr Barbara Cohoon (Impact of War on Service People's Children). The conference is a hybrid conference with simultaneous live streaming while the conference is occurring, allowing international and national attendances without having to travel. Further details can be found at the conference website <http://www.accypnconf.org.au/index.php>
3. Submission to Queensland Parliament about the current review of child protection legislation
4. A working party has just finished 2 position statements looking at 'Safeguarding the health of refugee children and young people in Australia' and 'Safeguarding the health of children seeking asylum in Australia'. These papers are currently out for member consultation and will be launched at the conference in October in Cairns
5. Chapters in WA, Qld, SA, Victoria and Tasmania and 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly member's newsletter.
6. Re-development of our e-learning sessions into a 'knowledge centre' for members to view various education opportunities online, <http://www.accypn.org.au/pd/e-learning/>
7. We have facebook and twitter links, and in process of setting up a LinkedIn site
8. Reviewing College competencies and re developing these into Standards of Practice, with a working group currently looking at this
9. Working with other National Nursing Organisations on a credentialing framework for specialist nurses. This is funded by the Nursing and Midwifery Office, Queensland Health. This work is being led by the Australian college of Mental Health Nurses.
10. Representation at the Inaugural Asia Pacific Paediatric Nurses Association in Hong Kong in September 2014, which the ACCYPN is a member organisation of APPNA.

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

1. Promotion of the next conference, information will be on the College's website <http://www.accypnconf.org.au/index.php>.
2. Inclusion into issues affecting children and young people's health and wellbeing

### **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 – Board Member, ACCYPN

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Report to Coalition of National Nursing Organisations August 2014

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**What have been the significant activities of your organisation?**

1. The Annual Critical Care Institute of Continuing Education June 2014 – Adelaide – “Difficult Dangerous Different”. Over 300 delegates attended this meeting designed especially with a clinical focus and included clinical intensives.
2. ACCCN Standards for Practice – Phase 1 has been complete; Phase 2 –the Delphi study is commencing will be sourced.
3. New Website and database management system has been launched on July 2014.
4. Membership categories have now included an associate membership that can be affiliated with other organisations, a graduate student membership.
5. The strategic plan is on the agenda at the next face to face board meeting in October 2014.

**What are the issues that CoNNO members can help you with?**

Not for now

**Are there any particular issues you want CoNNO to consider?**

No

Dr Diane Chamberlain RN MN MPH PhD  
National President: Australian College of Critical Care Nurses



# Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.

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## Report to CoNNO, 5 September 2014

ACNN has four branches, in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.

Membership has passed 600, presuming all will renew by 30 September. Following an unrestricted education grant of \$20,000 from Johnson & Johnson, ACNN embarked on a 'road show' of dinner seminars around Australia primarily as a membership drive and also to promote the AWHONN Neonatal Skin Care Guidelines Third Edition with 100 copies donated by J&J (purchased from AWHONN by J&J). This road show has been to Brisbane, Gold Coast, Townsville, Darwin and ACT with other events planned until the end of the year for Wollongong, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

The annual conference and AGM will be held on Friday 19 September in Adelaide, followed by a symposium entitled *Neurology and Nutrition* on Saturday 20 September. Registration is open and going well.

Planning for the 2015 conference in Sydney has commenced, about to lock in the venue. The symposium theme is projected to be around neonatal skin care with potential sponsorship for international speakers from Johnson & Johnson.

The ACNN and Parker Healthcare Early Career and Early Research Career Scholarship was awarded to two applicants, both completing masters programs.

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 Adelaide where the overall winner is to be announced.

The ACNN five special interest groups (neonatal education, neonatal nurse practitioners, neonatal research, neonatal palliative care the Low Resource Countries SIG) continue their work. In particular the LRC Sig has been active in training for the *Helping Babies Breathe* program which they took to Goroka, Papua New Guinea, in May.

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, 2016.

The new ACNN website is up and running and provides far more options than the previous website, with online applications, event registration, user-friendly CMS, device directed format and many other features.

**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?**

ACORN had a successful conference with over 1000 delegates and 70 exhibitors attending the three day event held at the Melbourne convention and exhibition centre. The 2016 conference will be held in Hobart.

The 2014-2015 edition of the ACORN Standards were launched at our national conference. For the first time this edition is now available in print, online, and App formats.

The College launched our new website and social media (Facebook, Twitter and YouTube Channel) at the conference.

The inaugural ACORN research grant valued at \$20,000 was awarded to Dr Pat Nicholson, University of Melbourne and Chris Hunter, Peter McCallum Hospital, Melbourne to explore factors that contribute to pressure injuries in surgical patients.

In the last month the Executive Officer and Journal Editor have both resigned for personal reasons. As you can imagine, this has placed a great deal of pressure on the executive. We are currently reviewing the position descriptions prior to advertising.

An Education Officer, Dr Paula Foran, has been appointed to develop and deliver education on the ACORN Standards.

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

We are contemplating an archiving project. Has anyone completed a similar project and do you have any tips?

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

nil

*Dr Jed Duff RN PhD FACORN  
Director, Australian College of Operating Room Nurses  
Chair, ACORN Standards Committee*

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## Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association (ADSNA)

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

Unfortunately due to a dwindling membership in Tasmania, the Day Surgery Nurses Association of Tasmania has voted to dissolve their state group. ADSNA remains committed to supporting Tasmanian day surgery nurses still wishing to be a part of an interest group and national body, by encouraging them to join another state group. This is uncharted territory for ADSNA and as much as we are saddened by this decision, we completely understand the position the committee were in and we support them 100%. Should this group gain enough support and strength to begin again in the future, ADSNA will support them whole heartedly.

ADSNA has new blood in the exec roles on the committee this year and as such, there is so much enthusiasm and much work to be done. So far in our first 3 meetings of the year we have achieved the following:

- Review and re-writing of the Association's Mission statement and Values
  - Development of a document outlining the core functions of ADSNA and a code of conduct for all members of the association using the core values as the foundation. This will be published in our journal for all members to see and a pamphlet produced for inclusion in all new member packs.
- Development of a code of conduct specifically for the committee using Above and Below the Line behaviours
- Review and update of all committee role descriptions
- Planning for our 2015 Conference is well underway with the theme, date and venue chosen. "Surfing the Waves of Day Surgery" will focus on the highs and lows of working in the day surgery setting as well as a major focus on the physical and mental health and well being of nurses. It will be held on Saturday and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at the Gold Coast Convention Centre.

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

Any ideas for vibrant and engaging speakers in QLD for our next conference would be greatly appreciated.

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

Nil at this time.

*Claire Kennedy*  
*ADSNA President*

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## Australian Dermatology Nurses Association (ADNA)

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

ADNA National Conference In Melbourne with over 250 attendees for 2 days. At this an AGM meeting was held and a new President was elected as per the constitution.

This conference provided the opportunity to further strengthen the relationship with the Australasian College of Dermatologists which was collocated and the potential for nurses to attend their conference at heavily discounted fees and a combined conference and trade show in future years.

The most significant outcome of this event is the education that is delivered by both Medical and Nursing personnel to the many nurses who work around Australia in smaller private practices that have limited opportunity for professional development and / or networking.

The nurses that work in public hospitals or larger institutions also have the benefit of learning about areas of Dermatology that they might provide at their place of employment. The Conference is endorsed by the College of nursing And CPD points are allocated in line with the College requirements.

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

How do members provide education opportunities for nurses working in private practice or in small, remote communities that is focused on enhancing their specialised skills?

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

No

*Sally Holmes*

## Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA)

### Significant Activities

1. Credentialling – implemented a new initial and re-credentialling framework that will take effect from January 2014. This will reduce the clinical hours required from 1800 to 1000 for initial credentialling, strengthen the mentoring partnership and re-align the CPD hours in line with areas of practice. Information is at: <http://www.adea.com.au/credentialling/credentialled-diabetes-educators/>
2. A completely new website has been completed making member information more accessible with all payment for education, membership etc. available as an on-line payment. This will also allow submission of initial credentialling and re-credentialling applications via a secure site. Members will also be able to store their CPD activities on the site with write/change access only available to the member who owns it.
3. ADEA commissioned Deloitte Access Economics to research and write a report on the cost effectiveness of diabetes education. The report, *Benefits of Credentialled Diabetes Educators to people with diabetes and Australia* identifies large savings to the health system and improved quality of life to people with diabetes and is available at : <http://www.adea.com.au/about-us/research/diabetes-education-offers-chance-to-save-lives-and-3-9-billion/>
4. ADEA jointly convenes an annual scientific meeting with the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) in late August. This year was the biggest ever attendance with almost 2000 registrants.
5. Janssen funded ADEA to produce a video on the life of a Credentialled Diabetes Educator (CDE) which complements the cost effectiveness report. It is available on ADEA TV Youtube channel: <http://www.adea.com.au/about-us/research/diabetes-education-offers-chance-to-save-lives-and-3-9-billion/>
6. ADEA Board has approved a new Position Statement on Health Literacy and another new statement on CDE prescribing is being finalised.
7. The ADEA is currently being reviewed and updated.

*Dr Joanne Ramadge, CEO*

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## Australian Nurse Teachers Society – ANTS

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

#### **NNEC 2014:**

ANTS held the National Nurse Education conference 2014 in Adelaide a bi-annual event, held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on April 30<sup>th</sup> May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Around 220 attended the three day conference – with a trade display (15 exhibitors) a welcome reception and dinner.

Attendee's came from around Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Fiji, Thailand, Indonesia, and New Guinea , it was amazing to see representation and networking from such a cross section of nurse educators from clinical and academic fields.

Speakers represented academia and clinical fields and provided many insights into the current roles and function of nurse education and the proposed future of different educational perspectives in nursing. We were also fortunate enough to secure a speaker who trained in Australia in the 80s and has lived and worked in Bali for the past 30 years hearing the reversal of being an OSQN from an Australian Nurses perspective provided some lively and interesting discussions.

#### **AGM 2014:**

The AGM was also held during the conference all National Offices were declared open (for the bi- annual elections)

National President:	Michelle Girdler
Secretary:	Karen Simunov
Treasurer:	Christine Taylor
Membership Officer:	Stuart Taylor
E.Bulletin Editor:	Karen Simunov
State Liaison Officer:	Lorraine McMurtrie
General Committee:	Lindsay Harris

AGM discussions included:

ANTS name change – for further discussions and member forums

ANTS constitution update due – call for nominations to participate sent out to members

NNEC 2016 to be held in Sydney - call for members willing to participate on organising committee to assist National Exec in planning

State branch issues discussed and members agreed that role of 'education officer' to support state based education and report to National Exec will be discussed at branch level's. Some branches remain inactive and rather than trying to build new committees at present states to look at developing manageable activities with National Exec Team Support

National Exec action plan for ANTS tabled and accepted as a working document to support ANTS as an organisation and it members Australia wide.

#### **Promotion and Marketing Strategies:**

ANTS have nominated to provide a 'trade booth' at National Nursing Forum 2014 in Adelaide November 2014

- ANTS to support as a sponsor 'moodle moot' in Sydney in 2014

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

Nil issues 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

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

**Examples of major professional issues we've dealt with:**

### **Review of the Competency Standards for nurses in general practice Project**

The ANMF is conducting a review of the Competency Standards for nurses in general practice, which we first published in 2005. This 18 month project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health. Our research partner is the University of Wollongong. From March to September 2014, the Project Team has conducted a series of focus groups across the country. To date focus groups have been held in Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, Hobart, Ulverstone, Melbourne, Perth, Albany (including Busselton and the Wheatbelt), Cairns, Mackay and Brisbane. Further focus groups will be held in Adelaide and Clare at the end of September. Interviews are also being conducted with General Practitioners and Practice Managers around their awareness, use and application of the current Standards and the associated resource toolkit. A two day face to face meeting of the Project Reference Group was held in August to work on the next draft of the Standards and to develop descriptors for the registered nurse and the enrolled nurse in general practice. An on-line survey of the current draft of the Standards was also undertaken in August. The Project Advisory Group is scheduled to meet face to face for the final time in October 2014. The Project is running to the contracted timetable and is due to be completed in December 2014.

### **ANMAC Eligible Midwife Accreditation Standards**

### **ANMAC Review of the Nurse Practitioner Accreditation Standards**

### **NMBA Review of the Competency Standards for Registered Nurses**

### **NMBA Public Consultation for the Review of the Enrolled Nurse Standards for Practice**

### **Professional Indemnity Insurance for Homebirth Midwives**

ANMF Federal Office has written to the Federal Health Minister, Peter Dutton in August about this issue. We have requested, until such time as sufficient evidence is available about the risk profile and an appropriate indemnity insurance product for PPMs providing intrapartum services for planned home births, that the Australian Government place a hold on the cessation of the current PII exemption.

### **Australian Government Department of Health consultation on PCEHR**

### **CATSINaM Cultural Safety and Respect Training**

The Federal Professional Officers attended a cultural safety and respect workshop in Canberra hosted by the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM). The facilitators, Sharon Gollan (a Ngarrindjeri woman) and Kathleen Stacey (a white Australian) led participants through an extremely thought provoking, and at times confronting, excellent two days of workshoping. The workshop focussed on participants reflecting on our 'whiteness' and the impact of our white culture on this country's First Nation's peoples - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Participants were confronted with the privilege 'whiteness' affords in being part of the dominant culture in this society; the fact that white Australians will not be discriminated against because of skin colour; that white Australians grow up with expectations of entitlements, often without thinking that others don't share that privilege. Workshop participants were taken on a journey of the hideous pain and suffering inflicted on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in this country from colonisation to present day.

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

Keep a watch on our website for national campaigns and participate to lend support to the issues of importance to the nursing and midwifery professions.

Examples of campaigns in recent months include:

- Graduate Nurses and Midwives Need Jobs!
- Against GP co-payments
- Health care Emergency: Lies, cuts and broken promises – relating to the Abbot Government Budget 2014/15

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

Keep alert to policy changes at Federal Government level emanating from the Federal Budget 2014/15 and the impacts for nursing and midwifery on professional practice and education.

*Elizabeth Foley*

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**Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association (Inc)**  
**Report to the National Coalition of Nursing Organisations**  
**September 2014**

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.
- Meetings for members held in each state several times per year; including State conferences in NSW (June) and Qld (August) and Victoria (biennially in November).
- 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 not progressed at this stage.

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

- We continue to explore offering ongoing professional education to members. The group would welcome any advice from other groups regarding their experiences of offering online education.
- We continue to discuss the formalisation of a national presence, as our groups are separately incorporated State bodies.

Thank you for the opportunity to join this forum.

## APNA (Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association)

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

- **New President: Ms Karen Booth RN from June 26<sup>th</sup> 2014**
- **AGM @ National Conference May 29<sup>th</sup> 2014**
- **Conference: “Thriving Through Change”, Sydney May 29<sup>th</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup> 2014**
  - Very successful with excellent feedback
  - Record no of delegates – 517 (129 new delegates)
  - 52 sponsors and 51 booths
  - Sold out gala dinner on Sydney Showboat
  - Next Conference May 2015 on Gold Coast
- **Post Conference policy forum** held in Canberra with our International guests, Chaired by Dr Rosemary Bryant (CNMO), included variety nursing organisations & key DoH personnel.  
Discussed:
  - growth of PHC nursing in Australia
  - international trends in PHC nursing
- **Primary Health Care Nurse Project:** With funding support from the Commonwealth Government, APNA will develop innovative approaches to educating, supporting and building the capacity of nurses working in general practice and across primary health care settings.
  - The centrepiece of the APNA work program is the development of an education and career framework for nurses working in general practice – something members, have been telling us they need for some time now.
  - The new APNA program will also provide:
    - an orientation program for nurses new to general practice;
    - support and advice to assist general practices with uptake and optimal use of nurses;
    - expanded continuing education to enable nurses to support health promotion and prevent chronic disease;
    - demonstration projects providing blueprints for the innovative delivery of clinical care by nurses in general practice;
    - promotion of the role of the general practice nurse;
    - the development of peer-led professional networks;
    - and the development of tools to establish a better understanding of the profession through workforce surveys and data analysis.

### *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 Badenoch*

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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?**

The Co-Presidents of ASANNA were invited to speak at the National Student Nurse Association's (NSNA America) 62<sup>nd</sup> annual convention in Nashville in April. We were honoured to give a presentation on Global Initiatives in Nursing. We gave a brief overview of the history of Australia, starting with colonisation, and the forming of the commonwealth of Australia. This was juxtaposed with the history of Indigenous Australia, leading to the state of Indigenous Health today. We spoke about the structure of healthcare in Australia, the inequity in access, and subsequent reduced health outcomes in rural and remote locations. Nursing education, and graduate challenges were presented, leading into discussing ASANNA's goals, aims, achievements and growth.

ASANNA was excited to be a part of the Close the Gap (CTG) steering committee workshop held in Canberra in August. Our representatives learnt much about the CTG campaign, and ways we can begin to make a difference and support this campaign.

We are holding an event titled CORE – which is our Council Of Representatives and Executive in December. This will be our first event, with some of us only meeting face to face for the first time at this event. We are busily engaged with planning and attempting to secure funding for this event.

ASANNA has been working with some state based health departments in starting trials of our 'I want the student!' program. The project "I want the student!" aims to change relationships between practicing nurses and students attending clinical placement to improve symbiotic learning and satisfaction for both the teacher and pupil. Our aim is to improve placement experiences for students, professionals and workplaces through a change in the fundamental relationship between students and mentors to produce confident, passionate and prepared students and future early career nurses.

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

Any guidance with fundraising would be great

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

Could CoNNO as a whole make a formal commitment to the Close The Gap Campaign in some way?

*Stephanie Jeremy*

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**Australian Women's Health Nurse Association Inc.**

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

- Representation on the Cervical Renewal Program (for changes to Cervical Screening in 2016)
- Advanced Practice Standards-Final Draft completed-waiting on Endorsement
- Women's Health Nurse Professional Portfolio-Updated
- Updated our Website
- WHN Annual Professional Update to be held in Adelaide-hosted by our Sub-Branch in November 2014
- Membership numbers maintained
- Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing(WH elective) not offered this year as it is currently under review with the Australian College of Nursing
- Focus on Cardiovascular risk assessment as part of WH assessment
- Clinical Handbook-updated but is being reformatted-due August

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

Ongoing Governance support-Membership

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

Not currently

*Linda Oliver*

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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.

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

Our restructure from state based organisations with a national body to an Incorporated Association Limited by Guarantee continues to take shape.

Our National Conference celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> year as an association was very successful with 839 delegates from 12 countries attending the Gold Coast event. We have already commenced our meetings for the 2016 AWMA conference which will be held in Melbourne at the Melbourne Convention Centre mid-November.

Our collaborations with international organisations continue with the joint publications of:

- Managing Wounds as a Team. (Moore A, Butcher G, Corbett L et al. AAWC, AWMA, EWMA Position Paper: Managing Wounds as a Team. J Wound Care 2014; 23(5Suppl.):S1-S38.)
- Our AWMA members Gill Butcher and Bill McInnes were our delegates

Keryln Carville continues to lead the development of the International Pressure Ulcer/Injury Prevention policy and guidelines with our partners, National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP, USA) and the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) as chair of the Australian Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (APIAP). In October of this year the International Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention of Pressure Ulcer/Injury will be available through our website in October. [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au)

Our Wound Aseptic subcommittee continues to be busy with the final draft of the *Position Document: Minimum standards for a wound dressing procedure in the home care setting* is almost complete before sending to AWMA members for comment.

The education subcommittee continues to offer free webinars:

- July: Speaker A/Prof Geoff Sussman: Wound Exudate Management: What, Why and How?
- August: Wendy White: Seen and unseen 'foes' facing unique challenges
- August: Dr Teresa Hurd: Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

More are scheduled for October and November but topic and speakers are unconfirmed. Each state and territory has education opportunities and times and dates are available on the website either in the calendar section or under each state or territory.

### Our new committee elected at the May AGM are:

Immediate Past President: Bill McGuinness  
 President: Margo Asimus: [president@awma.com.au](mailto:president@awma.com.au)  
 Vice President: Tabatha Rando  
 Secretary: Donna Angle: [secretary@awma.com.au](mailto:secretary@awma.com.au)  
 Treasurer: Nikki Frescos  
 Allied Health Rep: Cheryl Banks  
 Medical Rep: Currently vacant  
 Nursing Re: Terry Swanson: [tswanon@swh.net.au](mailto:tswanon@swh.net.au)  
 Membership Secretary: Paul Philcox: [Paul.philcox2@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:Paul.philcox2@health.sa.gov.au)  
 Qld Rep: Kathy Finlayson: [k.finlayson@qut.edu.au](mailto:k.finlayson@qut.edu.au)  
 NSW Rep: Lyn Thomas : [lynette.thomas@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lynette.thomas@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)  
 WA Rep: Jan Wright: [jmwright@inet.au](mailto:jmwright@inet.au)  
 SA Rep: Sue Templeton: [sue.templeton01@gmail](mailto:sue.templeton01@gmail)  
 ACT Rep: Judith Blair: [judy.blair@act.gov.au](mailto:judy.blair@act.gov.au)  
 Tasmania Rep: Lyndsey Wright: [Lyndsey.wright@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:Lyndsey.wright@dhhs.tas.gov.au)  
 Vic Rep: Ruth Angus: [rmang2@gmail.com](mailto:rmang2@gmail.com)  
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**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

I was nominated by AWMA for an executive position on the Australian Health Care Reform Alliance (AHCRA) <http://www.healthreform.org.au/>. AHCRA is a coalition of peak health groups working towards a better health system for Australia's future. The priorities following the recent Summit in Canberra are:

1. Concern about a shift away from a universal healthcare system
2. Primary health care as the core of an effective and sustainable health care system
3. Primary Health Networks
4. Sustainability
5. Better use and distribution of health workforce including enabling nurse practitioners to work to their full potential
6. Continued improvement of the oral health system
7. Stronger role for consumers in their own care, in partnership with health professionals (consumer-centred care) and in governance of service planning, designing care and service measurement and evaluation

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

We continue to lobby for a fair and equitable health care system especially for our patients with chronic disease. We say no to the \$7 co-payment.

Terry Swanson NPWM  
Nursing Representative AWMA  
[tswanson@swh.net.au](mailto:tswanson@swh.net.au)

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## Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM)

### Significant activities for CATSINaM in the last six months

During the past six months CATSINaM has undertaken a number of key activities relating to our CATSINaM Strategic Plan. These key activities have been:

1. Reviewed our mentoring program, a final report is available on our website.
  - We are now talking to key stakeholders to seek potential partners for a new mentoring program to being in 2015.
2. Held a number of membership forums around Australia, except Tasmania, with a focus on gaining member feedback and input on: the re-badged and relaunched CATSINaM; the new Strategic Plan, and the support needs, Member Benefits and professional development.
  - NB: another round of membership forums will start later this year going into 2015, starting with Tasmania.
3. We have held numerous university visits to discuss how CATSINaM can assist with recruitment and retention.
  - Meetings will continue with the universities during 2014-15, particularly around establishing a mentoring program.
4. In July 2014, we presented at the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery Council meeting regarding the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives within the university system i.e. students and academic staff.
5. In August, we presented to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia regarding embedding Cultural Safety Training into the regulatory framework.
6. We have analysed AIHW 2012 workforce data and established the required number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives to assist with closing the gap in health outcomes.
7. In July, the second *cultural safety training* workshop was with representatives from the NMBA, APHNA, AHPRA, ANMAC as well as three universities participating.
  - NB: another workshop is earmarked for early 2015.
8. We have developed a *Welcome to Country and Acknowledge of Country Cultural Guidance Protocol*, this document is available on our website under communication/resources.

### Issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist CATSINaM with

CATSINaM will be hosting a Close the Gap parliamentary breakfast in early 2015, for all nurses and midwives. CATSINaM believes that nurses and midwives are the backbone of the Australian health system and play a pivotal role in providing culturally safe health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

### Issues CATSINaM wishes CoNNO to consider

1. CATSINaM would like to see members, if they have not already, develop their own reconciliation action plan. We'd be happy to talk to organisations about this or they can visit the Reconciliation Australia website for information and guidance.
2. We invite members to attend our next Cultural Safety Training workshop in early 2015. If your interested let us know and we will also be sending notifications out later this year.
3. We encourage members to participate in the 2015 Close the Gap week by highlighting own action in assisting with closing the gap

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## Continence Nurses Society Australia (CoNSA)

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

- Re-development of the CoNSA website – due for launch at the CoNSA AGM on 10/9/14
- Revision of the CoNSA Constitution in line with changes to the Victorian Incorporated Associations Act with the aim of achieving incorporation – Constitution to be presented to members for indorse at the CoNSA AGM on 10/9/14
- Commencement of review of the CoNSA clinical practice standards
- Approach made to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on the low rate of reimbursement for continence assessments
- Privacy policy being developed
- Website policy being developed

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

- Support with having the rate of reimbursement for a Continence Assessment via the NDIS reviewed.

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

- Advice and direction on having the rate of reimbursement for a Continence Assessment via the NDIS reviewed.

*Janie Thompson*

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## Discharge Planning Association

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

Discharge Planner at Concord Hospital, Sydney, represented The Discharge Planning Association at the international Discharge Planning Conference in Canada in October 2013. Our Canadian colleagues were keen to hear how Australia tackles our discharge planning challenges. This is a great achievement for The Association to be recognised overseas.

The Discharge Planning Association was delighted to again officially endorse the 2014 5<sup>th</sup> Annual IIR Healthcare "A Move to Integrated & Consumer Directed Care" held in Melbourne July 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. We have also provided two scholarships for delegates to attend.

The Association was invited to attend and participate in a discussion panel "Engaging & Empowering Consumers" at the "Balance NEAT & NEST Conference in Sydney in February 2014. I attended this conference and participated in the panel. In addition, The Association provided sponsorship for one of our delegates to attend the Change Champions Seminar "The Long Stay Patient" in Sydney that was held on 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

The Past Professional Days continue to be very successful and 2013 was no different. We had very good feedback and we hope to replicate that same result for this year. The Executives are in the process of planning the day, 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 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and the day will be free of charge for all members. The Association is delighted to again be able to offer up to 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. Topics to date for The Professional Day include: 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.

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

We continually encourage new members to the Association and our Public Officer will focus on contacting Hospitals who have Discharge planning roles in regards to highlighting The Association to them and encouraging them to join.

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

The Association requests any assistance with profiling the Association to encourage/attract new members who are working as discharge planners in Hospitals.

*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:
  - Chapter meetings / professional development in Victoria (*coinciding with World No Tobacco Day*), South Australia and Queensland (*Motivational Interviewing Techniques*)
  - Walk on the Wild Side Symposium held in Brisbane in May 2014
  - 'Everything you want to know about cannabis' workshop held in Brisbane 31.5.14 (*coinciding with World No Tobacco Day*) (additional workshops planned for Perth in August and Sydney in September).
  - DANA 'Speak Up' Annual Conference held in Sydney in June 2014
  - DANA NSW Nurses Forum being held in Sydney September 5th
- Meetings:
  - Annual face-to-face meeting of the DANA Credentialling Advisory Committee held in Sydney in June 2014
  - DANA Annual General Meeting held in conjunction with the annual conference (followed by executive handover)
  - DANA was included on an expert panel at Queensland Parliament House in relation to strategies to combat alcohol fuelled violence
  - DANA invited onto the management committee of the Queensland Coalition for Action on Alcohol
- Other:
  - Two newsletters (DANA Unwrapped) written and distributed: May and August
  - First award of life membership to a New Zealand DANA member, Dr Daryle Deering
  - Launch of two DANA position statements: 1) 'Problematic Substance Use by Nurses and Midwives' 2) Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
  - Established DANA presence on LinkedIn and planned and implemented a social media campaign (with E-GPSolutions)
  - Interviewed by 'Nursing Review' regarding future workforce issues (an outcome of the social media campaign)
  - 2015 conference planning commenced

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

- Ideas about how to recruit nurses with sufficient financial knowledge to fulfil the role of treasurer
- Organisational structures to accommodate members from Asian countries

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

Colleen Blums

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## Flight Nurses Australia Incorporated

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

1. Participating in an industry based workgroup looking at proposed rule changes to Civil Aviation Order 48.1 regarding fatigue management rosters. The group are working in consultant with the Civil Aviation Services Australia to develop roster practices which address fatigue management in line with other aviation industry workers such as flight attendants and pilots.
2. Flight Nurses Australia have two representatives developing aeromedical multidisciplinary industry based standards.
3. Facebook active and gathering growing group of followers.
4. Embarking on Twitter
5. Annual Conference 10-13 September 2014 Brisbane Convention Centre.
6. Membership Strategic Workshop being conducted post conference.

### **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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## Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia (GENCA)

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

- Continued education – regional meetings and Conferences
- Fundamentals in Endoscope Reprocessing workshops held in NSW, Victoria and South Australia
- Practical skills Assessments undertaken at education events and on-site in Hospitals as requested
- Representation on the Specialist Nurse Credentialing Framework Committee (Debbie McQueen and Lynn Rapley).
- Preparation for credentialing exam in October 2014

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

Recognition of Credentialling

Remote area – access to education events by members

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

No

*Debbie McQueen*

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## Nursing Informatics Australia (NIA)

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

### **NIA Conference**

As part of the Health Informatics Conference, the NIA conference day was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> August in Melbourne. The day was opened by the Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer of Victoria, Alison McMillan, with the keynote speaker Jody Olorenshaw following with a great talk on the St Vincent's Private Hospital implementation of their maternity database. All of the papers were of a really high quality, the diversity of topics highlighting the areas of informatics that nurses are very much leading.

### **Strategic Plan**

This has been finalised and is on the NIA website. As there are ongoing items it is very fluid and will be updated yearly

### **Certified Health Informaticians Australia CHIA**

This informatics certification has been planned over a number of years, with readings and questions developed by a group of highly qualified people. Once you have nominated to do the exam, you have 3 months to sit, and it does take this long as there is a lot of study and preparation required. At this time, 3 of the NIA committee have passed the exam and are therefore certified. The Health Informatics Society Australia (HISA) co-ordinate and manage CHIA.

### **International Medical Informatics Association–Nursing Informatics (IMIA-NI)**

Joanne Foster is the Nursing Informatics Australia (NIA) Representative to the International Medical Informatics Association–Nursing Informatics (IMIA-NI) and attended the 12<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Nursing Informatics in June 2014 which was held in Taipei, Taiwan. The theme was "East meets West eSMART+". This was a 5 day Congress with a 1.5 Pre Congress and Post Congress 3 day Programs as well as the main Congress. During the Congress IMIA-NI holds the Annual General Assembly meeting of which Joanne is Vice Chair – Administration & Finance.

Joanne attend the invitation only 3 day Post Congress Program which had the theme of mHealth and there were 6 working groups looking at the topics of New Care Models; Technology; ROI – Payment; Legal, Policy, Privacy & Security; Standards & Interoperability; Research and Development.

#### *East meets West*

Simplicity  
Meaningful Use  
Advanced Leadership  
Revolution  
Translational Technologies  
People Leading uCare Safely

The main Congress Proceedings are freely available at:

<http://ebooks.iospress.nl/volume/nursing-informatics-2014-east-meets-west-esmart>  
and the Post Congress Publication is due for publication in 2015.

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

None at this time

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

None at this time

*Lis Herbert*

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## Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc (OHNNG)

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

We held our 18<sup>TH</sup> National Conference in Brisbane at the end March. This was a huge success with over 150 delegates registered. This was our biggest attendance for a national meeting to date. The three-day event showcased speakers from around the world as well as local and national nursing speakers. It will be the 3rd 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 an ENT nurse from Vanuatu to attend the meeting. We sponsored a nurse who is a survivor of Head & Neck cancer who presented at our meeting in Perth to represent and give us all an insight into her illness/wellness 12 months down the track. We had 13 nurse delegates from New Zealand.

### **QLD**

The highlight of the second half of the year for OHNNG Qld will be the Gold Coast Study Day scheduled for Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup>. The day will cover both adult and paediatric ENT and include a lecture on Robotic (ENT) Surgery which is offered on the Gold Coast but not yet in Brisbane! The event will be appropriate for all facets of nursing and students alike.

In Queensland OHNNG is 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 has three education sessions planned for the year with the beginning of planning for the 2015 National Conference which will be held early March 2015 in Sydney.

Cochlear Implants & BAHA's – 16<sup>th</sup> July. 35 people attended an education evening at Merewether Surfhouse. Evaluations shows the evening was a success. Our next session is planned for 17<sup>th</sup> September Topic will be FESS. The 3rd session will be held 15<sup>th</sup> October Topic – Facial Prosthetic's. Speakers will include a Clinical Psychologist, Prosthetic Artist & a patient perspective.

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 has run her second education day in Hobart on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The theme was Head & Neck Cancer. The day was well attended with 65 delegates. Topics covered were Oral & Oropharyngeal cancer, Laryngectomy, Parotidectomy & Thyroidectomy. The role of Hyperbaric Medicine in Head & Neck Ca, Swallowing & Speech difficulties in H & N Ca, Dental and Psychological Considerations, for these patients and outcomes with Radiotherapy. The feedback again was excellent & the day was well received by all who attended. OHNNG now has over 80 Tasmanian members & another education day planned for November 22<sup>nd</sup> with the theme of Paediatric ENT.

### **VIC**

State Coordinator Jennifer Bessell ran her first study day in June this year. Due to the overwhelming response we had to limit the day to 50 delegates due to the venue. It was a great day with numerous topics covered including an amazing talk from a patient who has suffered from sleep apnoea most of his life. Another study day is planned for November.

### **ACT**

State Coordinator Judith Redpath, has also two study days planned for the ACT.

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## **SA**

State Coordinator Karen Mahoney held a study day in May. The day covered Paediatric anaesthesia, current trends in OSA and otology talks. Once again a great success and well attended. We still have our bimonthly education evenings planned for the rest of the year.

## **WA**

State Coordinator Tooey Trang Tran.

Tooey is in the process of establishing a ENT study day in November to promote a wider audience & establish future networks with other ENT nurses who may work within different areas (community, adult, paediatric, ward, outpatient & theatre). In addition, working in correspondence with the Royal College of Surgeon (RACS) to open the ENT Sinus Surgery & Facial Plastic Workshop through CTEC (Certified Technical Education Center) at University of Western Australia (UWA) in November. She has linked with RACS, CTEC & UWA to open this workshop for nurses who are interested in more hands on approach & improve perioperative skills.

## **Membership**

Membership is still on the rise, especially since the Hobart, Victorian and SA Study days that were organised in the middle of the year. There were many new members who joined the group on registering for the study days.

## **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 2014 PCNA conference *Building a bridge to the future* was held in April in Sydney. The program included inter-disciplinary experts presenting work on health systems and services and improving clinical outcomes for people approaching end of life and their families. The conference was attended by more than 280 clinicians, academics and researchers and has evaluated well.

PCNA is participating Specialist Nurse Credentialing Project being run by Australian College of Mental Health Nurses under the auspices of the Nursing and Midwifery Office of Queensland.

PCNA recently submitted comment to the Australian Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on the Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Exposure Draft Bill 2014.

PCNA will hold our AGM including Committee elections a few days before the CoNNO meeting.

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

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

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