

CoNNO Secretariat Report for April to August 2011

Secretariat Team

The CoNNO Secretariat team is based at the Federal Office of the ANF in Melbourne. The team consists of: Anastasia Shianis, Administrative Assistant to the ANF Federal Professional Team; Julianne Bryce, Senior Federal Professional Officer; Elizabeth Foley, Federal Professional Officer; Sotiria Stefanis, ANF Finance Officer; Krista McClelland, Federal Graphic Designer; and Kristy Male, Administrative Assistant to the Federal Communications Team. Anastasia organises CoNNO Council and members meetings, attends to agendas and minutes, maintains CoNNO files, coordinates email traffic and accommodates the many requests of CoNNO Council and members. Myself and Elizabeth, field enquiries, draft documents and prepare reports and submissions to the Department of Health and Ageing. Sotiria maintains accounts, financial records and prepares balance sheets for Council and the Department. Krista and Kristy provide IT support, format reports, submissions and surveys and along with Anastasia, maintain the CoNNO website. Many thanks to the CoNNO Secretariat Team, the Chair and the Council and for their hard work this year.

Council elections

Current CoNNO Council consists of:

Kim Ryan (Australian College of Mental Health Nurses) – Chair
Tracey Osmond (The College of Nursing) – Deputy Chair
Julianne Bryce (Australian Nursing Federation) – Treasurer
Helen Gosby (Australian College of Nurse Practitioners)
Belinda Caldwell (Australian Nurse Practitioners Association)
Robyn Coulthard (Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses)
Lyn Hinspeter (CRANAplus)
Maryanne Craker (National Enrolled Nurses Association)
Debra Cerasa (Royal College of Nursing, Australia).

The CoNNO Council meets face-to-face twice a year and via teleconference twice a year.

As of July 2011, there are three council positions due for re-election. Robyn Coulthard, Helen Gosby and Belinda Caldwell have served a two year term on Council. Following the August Member Meeting, an email will be forwarded to members calling for nominations. If more than three nominations are received, a ballot will be sent out for electronic voting in September 2011.

Action items from April 2011

There are no outstanding items from the April 2011 CoNNO Member Meeting.

Correspondence

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

e-Bulletins

In accordance with the funding agreement for CoNNO and the request of member organisations, quarterly e-Bulletins have been produced in 2010/11. E-Bulletin editions to date have been posted to the website.

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

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The Coalition of National Nursing Organisations acknowledges the traditional owners and Elders past and present of the land on which we meet across Australia

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CoNNO Council

CoNNO Council met face to face on Tuesday 26 July 2011 in Melbourne. Topics for discussion at this full day meeting included: the August member meeting; the Credentialling project; online governance education; mentoring update; budget and funding; work with other national organisations; CoNNO Council positions; review of the strategic plan; and meeting dates for next year.

Governance online education module

External consulting group Australian Health Consulting were engaged by Council last year to convert the current CoNNO Governance Standards and Toolkit documents to an on-line education module. The Secretariat is working with the consultant to incorporate governance scenarios into the program and finalise the layout and graphics. The final version of the program will be signed off by Council prior to uploading to the CoNNO website. Members will be informed by email when the module is completed and available.

National Nurse Credentialling Project

Following the project workshop held during the April member meeting, consultation on the draft framework was completed late June and the resource toolkit finalised in July 2011. CoNNO provided the final report on the project to the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing in July 2011.

NMBA Workshops

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has held two workshops in Melbourne in July and August respectively. Tracey Osmond, Deputy Chair attended the workshop to review the Principles for the Assessment of National Competency Standards for Registered and Enrolled Nurses on 5 July 2011 and Julianne Bryce, Treasurer attended the workshop to review the National Competency Standards for the Nurse Practitioner held on 2 August 2011, on behalf of CoNNO. Participants are awaiting circulation of the workshop outcomes.

Budget and funding

The CoNNO Secretariat submitted a funding proposal for 2011/12 to the Department of Health and Ageing in June 2011. DoHA granted this funding request which provides support for the work of CoNNO until June 2012. The final reports to DoHA for the 2010/11 CoNNO Secretariat funding round and the CoNNO Credentialling Project were submitted at the end of July 2011. The CoNNO Secretariat prepared and provided the budget for CoNNO Council at the meeting held 26 July 2011.

Dates for 2012 CoNNO meetings

Council determined that the CoNNO member meetings in 2012 will be held on Friday 20 April 2012 in Melbourne and Friday 17 August 2012 in Sydney and CoNNO Council meetings on Tuesday 27 March 2012 and Tuesday 24 July 2012 in Melbourne. CoNNO Council teleconference dates are still to be decided.

Julianne Bryce
ANF Senior Federal Professional Officer
CoNNO Secretariat

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