



CoNNO
Coalition of National **Nursing** Organisations

Chair and Secretariat Report

October 2015

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CoNNO Chair

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CoNNO Chair and Secretariat Report May to October 2015

CoNNO Council Members

Christopher Cliffe (CRANaplus), CoNNO Chair
Helen Gosby (Australian College of Nurse Practitioners), CoNNO Deputy Chair
Julianne Bryce (Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation), CoNNO Secretariat
Jed Duff (Australian College of Operating Room Nurses)
Shelley Reid (Australian College of Neonatal Nurses)
Julianne Badenoch (Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association)
Kathleen McLaughlin (Australian College of Nursing)
Marian Linnane (Nursing Informatics Australia)
Sharon Temby (Australian Dermatology Nurses Association)

Outgoing CoNNO Council Members

Terry Swanson (Australian Wound Management Association) – November 2012 to August 2015
Sally Holmes (Australian Dermatology Nurses Association) – October 2014 to June 2015

Council elections

Following the May member meeting, Sally Holmes (Australian Dermatology Nurses Association) informed the Secretariat that she would no longer be the ADNA representative on CoNNO and thereby required to vacate her position on Council. Nominations for her position on Council were sought at the end of July 2015. During the nomination period, Terry Swanson informed the Secretariat that she would also be stepping off CoNNO, and thereby CoNNO Council, due to restructure of the Australian Wound Management Association.

Two nominations were received during the nomination period. As there were now two vacant positions, both nominees were accepted and informed of their successful nomination. Marian Linnane and Sharon Temby were elected to Council. Welcome to our two new Council members.

Terry Swanson has been on Council for three years. It has been invaluable to have Terry's input on matters of national importance to the nursing and midwifery professions. She has been a highly engaged participant on Council. It has been a pleasure for all of us on Council to work with her. Our sincere thanks to both our outgoing Council members, Terry and Sally for their time and effort contributing to the work of CoNNO Council.

CoNNO Council Meetings

A CoNNO Council meeting was held face to face on 1 June and via teleconference on 9 September 2015. Topics for discussion at these meetings included: member meeting planning and agenda, CoNNO Information Sheets, the budget and funding, the Council election, a proposed name change, key issues for nursing and midwifery, and future meeting dates.

CoNNO Information Sheets

Work has been undertaken by CoNNO Council members to develop a brief overview and an information sheet on CoNNO for CoNNO member organisations and key stakeholders. It is anticipated these documents will be useful to raise awareness about CoNNO amongst the members of our member organisations and to a broader group of health stakeholders. These documents have been sent to CoNNO member organisations and will also be sent to key stakeholders.

Proposed CoNNO Name Change

At the June meeting of Council, members discussed a possible name change for CoNNO to include midwifery. The CoNNO Terms of Reference already include midwifery. In order to be inclusive, the proposal is to include midwifery in the CoNNO name. The proposed new name therefore would be the Coalition of National Nursing and Midwifery Organisations (CoNNMO). The Secretariat reviewed costs associated with a name change to the logo and website domain which were minimal. An email has been sent to CoNNO members which includes a ballot paper to be completed following the October CoNNO member meeting. This will allow for discussion on the issue at the member meeting prior to the vote. The ballot will be to vote for or against a name change.

Action Items from May 2015

There are no outstanding items from the May 2015 CoNNO Member Meeting.

Correspondence

Throughout this period, the CoNNO Secretariat has circulated emails relating to conferences, media releases, meetings, newsletters, projects and surveys to CoNNO members for their involvement, information and further circulation to their respective memberships. A listing of relevant events and conferences is available under 'calendar' on the CoNNO website. Details of correspondence sent and received by CoNNO is held by the Secretariat.

Funding

The ANMF is the auspicing body and fund holder for CoNNO. CoNNO is funded as a program by the Australian Government Department of Health. As CoNNO was funded until June 2015, at the beginning of May the ANMF submitted a proposal to the Department on behalf of CoNNO seeking funding for a further two year period from July 2015-17. As per the existing Deed of Variation to the Funding Agreement, a final report was submitted on 17 June 2015. The ANMF was formally notified of funding commitment approval for CoNNO for two years on 8 July 2015. The new Funding Agreement was finalised and signed on 18 September 2015.

Secretariat Team Overview

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Federal Office is responsible for the CoNNO Secretariat. The CoNNO Secretariat team is based in the Federal Office in Melbourne. The team consists of: Julianne Bryce and Elizabeth Foley, ANMF Federal Professional Officers; Sotiria Stefanis, ANMF Finance Officer; Anastasia Shianis, Administrative Assistant to the ANMF Federal Professional Team; and Kristy Male, IT Officer and Administrative Assistant to the Federal Communications Team.

Anastasia organises the CoNNO member and Council meetings including travel and accommodation, attends to agendas and minutes, maintains CoNNO files, coordinates email traffic and the CoNNO website, and accommodates the requests of CoNNO members and Council. Julianne and Elizabeth coordinate member and Council meetings, field enquiries, draft documents and prepare reports and submissions to the Australian Government Department of Health. Sotiria maintains accounts, financial records and prepares balance sheets for the Department and the external auditors. Kristy provides information technology support, formats reports, submissions and surveys and, along with Anastasia, maintains the CoNNO website. In addition to the CoNNO Secretariat role, Julianne Bryce is a member of the CoNNO Council. Once again, many thanks to the CoNNO Secretariat Team, the Chair and the Council for their continuing work on behalf of CoNNO.

Upcoming CoNNO Meetings

The next CoNNO member meeting will be held in Melbourne on Friday 6 May 2016 at the ANMF Victorian Branch, 540 Elizabeth Street Melbourne. A teleconference meeting of the CoNNO Council will be held on Friday 11 December 2015.