



# CoNNMO

Coalition of National **Nursing & Midwifery** Organisations

## Chair and Secretariat Report

October 2023

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## **CoNNMO Chair and Secretariat Report October 2023**

### **CoNNMO Council Members**

Joanne Perks (Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association), CoNNMO Chair  
Sam Moses (Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association), CoNNMO Deputy Chair  
Julianne Bryce (Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation), CoNNMO Secretariat  
Meredith Cummins (Cancer Nurses Society of Australia)  
Rebecca East (Australian College of Perioperative Nurses)  
Sally Sara (Australian and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society)  
Julia Morphet (College of Emergency Nursing Australasia)  
Alison Weatherstone (Australian College of Midwives)  
Anita Taylor (Australian and New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association)

The CoNNMO Council meets by videoconference four times a year, and as required. Council have met twice since the last member meeting.

### **Council elections**

CoNNMO Chair, Tracey Nicholls completed three consecutive terms on CoNNMO Council following the May member meeting so stepped down from Council in July. Colleen Blums informed the Secretariat, after 5 years on Council that she would be retiring at the end of August. The Secretariat and Council sincerely thank both Tracey and Colleen on behalf of CoNNMO members for their dedication and commitment to CoNNMO as highly engaged members of Council for many years. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with Tracey and Colleen.

At the August Council meeting, CoNNMO Council elected a new Chair, Joanne Perks. Many thanks to Jo for accepting the role of CoNNMO Chair.

As CoNNMO Council had two vacancies, the Secretariat sought nominations from eligible member representatives in September. Two nominations were received. Alison Weatherstone from the Australian College of Midwives and Anita Taylor from the Australian and New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association were elected unopposed. Many thanks to Alison and Anita for their nominations and congratulations them both on their appointment to Council. Nominations for one Council position will be sought by the Secretariat at the end of January 2024. The Council member currently holding this position will be eligible to re-nominate. CoNNMO member representatives that have attended a minimum of two member meetings, as a representative or observer, are encouraged to nominate.

### **CoNNMO Council Meetings**

CoNNMO Council meetings were held by zoom on Monday 5 June and Monday 28 August 2023 to plan for the CoNNMO member meeting. At the meeting, Council reviewed the CoNNMO Terms of Reference, Strategic Plan and National priorities documents and discussed Council positions, CoNNMO funding, the new member application and the agenda for the upcoming member meeting. CoNNMO member body reports from the last meeting were reviewed. Invited guests and potential speakers for the member meeting were discussed and agreed. The next CoNNMO Council meeting is scheduled to be held by online in November 2023.

### **New Member Application**

The CoNNMO Secretariat received one new member application from Multiple Sclerosis Nurses Australasia in July 2023. CoNNMO Council considered this application at their meeting on 28 August 2022 and will recommend acceptance of the application by the CoNNMO membership at the October member meeting.

### **Action Items from October 2020**

There are no outstanding items from the May 2023 CoNNMO Member Meeting.

### **Communications**

The CoNNMO website is maintained by the Secretariat. Many 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: events, media releases, meetings, newsletters, projects, submissions, consultations, research, surveys and COVID information. 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. Please remember to review your organisations details on the CoNNMO website at [www.connmo.org.au](http://www.connmo.org.au) to ensure it remains up to date and contact the CoNNMO Secretariat with any changes.

### **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 October 2022, the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care funded the ANMF Federal Office to conduct the operations of CoNNMO for a further three years, until 30 June 2025. A three-year contract for the operations of CoNNMO was signed on 26 October 2022. Sitting fees for attendance at CoNNMO member meetings are now available to eligible members as part of the new funding agreement. The sitting fee application form is available on the CoNNMO website.

### **Secretariat Team Overview**

The Secretariat team consists of: Julianne Bryce, ANMF Senior 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, 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 coordinates member and Council meetings, responds to enquiries, drafts documents, manages the funding agreement and prepares reports to the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. In addition to the CoNNMO Secretariat role, Julianne Bryce, in her position as ANMF Senior Federal Professional Officer, is a permanent member of the CoNNMO Council. Sotiria Stefanis maintains accounts, financial records and prepares balance sheets for the Department and the external auditors.

### **Upcoming CoNNMO Meetings**

The next CoNNMO member meeting will be held face to face on Friday 3 May 2024.