

CoNNO Meeting – Friday 8 November 2013

Draft Minutes

1. Welcome

Members were welcomed to the meeting by Julianne Badenoch, Chair of the Coalition of National Nursing Organisations (CoNNO). A special welcome was extended to new members, the Australian Dermatology Nurses Association and the Australian Forensic Nurses Association.

2. Attendance

Vanessa Smith	Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia
Marija Juraja	Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control & CoNNO Councilor
Jo Perks	Australasian Sexual Health & HIV Nurses Association
Karen Simunov	Australia and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nurses
Donna Cowan	Australian and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society
Lesley Everingham	Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses
Jacquie Burton	Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses
Di Chamberlain	Australian College of Critical Care Nurses
Kim Ryan	Australian College of Mental Health Nurses & CoNNO Councilor
Shelley Reid	Australian College of Neonatal Nurses
Helen Gosby	Australian College of Nurse Practitioners & CoNNO Councilor
Kathleen McLaughlin	Australian College of Nursing
Jed Duff	Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Joanne Ramadge	Australian Diabetes Educators Association
Michelle Girdler	Australian Nurse Teachers Society
Julianne Bryce	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation & CoNNO Secretary
Elizabeth Foley	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Amanda Wylie	Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association
Julianne Badenoch	Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association & CoNNO Chair
Linda Oliver	Australian Women's Health Nurse Association & CoNNO Councilor
Terry Swanson	Australian Wound Management Association & CoNNO Councilor
Mary Ryan	Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Christopher Cliffe	CRANApplus & CoNNO Deputy Chair
Colleen Blums	Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia
Margaret Tabone	Flight Nurses of Australia
Lynn Rapley	Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia
Julian Grant	Maternal Child & Family Health Nurses Australia
Lis Herbert	Nursing Informatics Australia
Tracey Nicholls	Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Nurses Group
Kym Griffin	Palliative Care Nurses Australia
Regina McDonald	Psychogeriatric Nurses Association Australia
Elizabeth Amega	Renal Society of Australasia

Guests

Donna Mowbray	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council
Dr Rosemary Bryant	Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer
Susan Ardill	NSW Nurses and Midwives Association
Angela Garvey	NSW Nurses and Midwives Association

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2.1 Apologies

Megan Phelps	Australasian Hepatology Association
Sharryn Byers	Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association
Julie Sykes	Australian and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society
Jan Riley	Australian Dermatology Nurses Association
Linda Starr	Australian Forensic Nurses Association
Janie Thompson	Continence Nurses Society Australia
Wendy Cross	Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery
Kate McCauley	Department of Health
Brett Holmes	NSW Nurses and Midwives Association
Amanda Adrian	ANMAC

3. Confirmation of agenda

4. Minutes of the previous meeting – 29 May 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 May 2013 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5. Business arising from the previous meeting

All action items from the previous meeting have been addressed.

6. Council report

6.1 Chair report

See attached Chair report.

Action: Upload current Strategic Plan to the CoNNO website.

6.2 Secretariat report

See attached Secretariat report.

Action: Email members notice of upcoming council elections.

7. Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer Update

Dr Rosemary Bryant gave us an update on her role as Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, which she has held now for five and a half years. An overview of the new Australian Government's election commitments and health initiatives included the following issues: the Government's intention to create a strong and reinvigorated primary health care sector; current health care services to be preserved and improved by minimising bureaucracy; a focus on general practice workforce – investment of \$13.4 million to provide an additional 500 scholarships for nurses and allied health professionals, building on the Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship Scheme (NAHSS); infrastructure grants for general practice; DoHA now named the Department of Health (DoH), Aged Care Portfolio has moved to the Department of Social Services, Indigenous Affairs and Policy has moved to Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Sport portfolio has moved back to DoH; some jobs rationalisation will occur across the Commonwealth public service, including the Health division .

Midwifery

Eligible midwives have historically experienced difficulties in establishing a collaborative arrangement. Following the COAG decision of August 2012, changes were made to legislation in September 2013 so that

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midwives can now establish collaborative arrangements with a health service rather than an obstetrician. A Principles of Communication document has been agreed between the ACM and RANZCOG. The two colleges are working on revised midwifery guidelines.

Aged Care

As previously mentioned, the Aged Care Portfolio is now in Department of Social Services. The Aged Care Models of Practice Program continues with 13 NPs and 14 NPCs participating. Evaluation of the program is ongoing. The DoH is working closely with Department of Social Services on this project. The Teaching/Research Aged Care Project involves 16 projects which will conclude in 2015. The Aged Care Nursing Scholarships Program continues, with ACN as the administrator.

Health Workforce Australia

An HWA Project in conjunction with the Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officers of Australian and New Zealand, is developing guidelines on Transition to Practice Programs. Due for completion by early 2014, this one year project aims to support programs in a range of contexts of practice. The HW2025 Report released in April 2012, predicted a shortage of 109,000 nurses. Efforts have been made to improve the robustness of the data, with the return rate on the National Nursing and Midwifery Workforce Survey now at 94%. HWA will be commencing a Maternity Services Workforce Project in early 2014. The HWA Retention and Productivity Project Report is yet to be completed.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

There is a process in train to appoint a new Chair of NMBA as the term of the inaugural Chair ended in August 2013.

Current consultations include the AHPRA review of registration standards common across the National Boards such as: English language skills and criminal history checking; NMBAs re-entry to practice policy and related documents; and the registration standard for registered nurses and registered midwives to supply and administer scheduled medicines under protocol.

Pandemic Influenza

The Australian Health Management Plan for Pandemic Influenza is in final stages of endorsement following review of the plan first published in 2009.

8. Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) Update

Ms Donna Mowbray, Director of Accreditation Services at ANMAC, provided an update of activities of the Council. Donna's role encompasses development of accreditation standards and accreditation programs leading to registration or endorsement as a registered nurse, registered midwife, enrolled nurse or nurse practitioner; as well as re-entry to practice programs. ANMAC is working towards a culture and philosophy of facilitation and support, to achieve accreditation.

Accreditation Programs

ANMAC's work program includes: 160 education providers nationally have submitted programs for accreditation; 480 accredited programs are now listed by the NMBA; 134 full submissions have been accredited, with 34 major modifications approved. Each program has been submitted under the current Accreditation Standards.

Donna explained that under the ANMAC assessment process there is an estimated nine month period from submission to accreditation. All education program submissions are reviewed by an assessment team which includes two academics and one clinician. The submission is reviewed against the relevant standard and the assessment process includes a site visit to meet staff, students and review facilities. From 1 July 2012 the assessment team members receive sitting fees. There are four accreditation committees, being

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for: Enrolled Nurses, Registered nurses, Registered Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners. These accreditation committees look at the outcomes in the report and make a recommendation to the ANMAC Board. To date all programs forwarded to the ANMAC Board have reached accreditation. ANMAC then forward the accreditation decision to the NMBA for their final approval, and once posted to the NMBA website, approved programs can be offered by the education provider.

Accreditation Standards

Review and development of the Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards was completed in 2012. The Education Programs for Internationally Qualified (EPIQ) Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards and Re-entry for Registered Nurses Accreditation Standards are both in the final stages of completion, and will be forwarded to the NMBA this month. The Registered Midwife Accreditation Standards are currently under review. There have been eight consultation forums, four rural/regional focus groups and online survey (with 700 responses to the 1st consultation paper). There are clearly divergent views on some of the clinical requirements for these standards. A final consultation forum will be held on 11 December 2013, which will focus on four main issues for discussion. It is anticipated the draft standards should be ready to send to the NMBA by February/March 2014.

Next projects

- EPIQ for Midwives (2014)
- Re-entry for Midwives (2014)
- NP Accreditation Standards (2014)
- EN Accreditation Standards (2015)

9. Social Media

A social media session was presented by Susan Ardill and Angela Garvey from the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association. Their overview of Social Media included: Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, and Instagram. The aim of the session was to demonstrate how even small organisations can use social media to engage with members and attract new members, to maximise economical use of resources.

10. Member reports

See attached member reports.

11. Other business

11.1 Australian Student and Novice Nurses Association (ASANNA)

Christopher Cliffe informed the CoNNO membership that ASANNA intend to apply for CoNNO membership. They are a newly established national network of student and novice nurses with a recently developed website www.asanna.com.au. ASANNA are keen for CoNNO and the profession to support them, and to encourage student nurses to get involved. There was discussion around concerns of sustainability given the membership base and lack of funding for this group.

Action: Invite ASANNA to attend and present at the next CoNNO meeting. The decision to offer funding for travel to attend the meeting was supported by CoNNO members.

12. Next meeting

- Friday 4 April 2014 , Melbourne (venue tba)
- Friday 5 September 2014, Sydney (venue tba)

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