

# CDNM News

Issue 2

September 2005

## Report from the Chair

Greetings. I hope that you find this newsletter informative and useful. This is to be published on a quarterly basis and we are hoping that it will be a valuable resource for members of Council. Thanks go to Associate Professor Kim Usher our Past Chair of Council for this initiative.

This is a busy time and CDNM is actively engaged on a number of fronts ensuring that our voice is being heard. I have summarised some current issues and initiatives below:

### **CDNM(ANZ) to work with Lobbyist**

We are about to start working with a Lobbyist, Ms Rosslyn Bates, who will be employed for 12 months initially. Her major tasks will be to lobby the politicians on the Council's behalf on nursing and midwifery issues pertinent to the Council. Rosslyn will be given comprehensive briefs by Council Executive.

### **Meeting of the Executive October 2005**

The new CDNM(ANZ) Executive will meet by teleconference this month to progress discussion on matters from our September meeting which will need to be followed up in the next couple of months. In addition the meeting will serve as an orientation for new members of the Executive and provide a good opportunity for planning our work over the next 2 years.

### **Meeting with the Australian Council of Deans of Education**

I have been invited to represent Council at the Annual Conference of the Australian Deans of Education. The meeting will be held in Canberra on 9 and 10 October. ACDE is keen to discuss areas where we may be able to collaborate to the advantage of both Councils. I will provide a brief report

to all members of CDNM following the meeting.

### **Productivity Commission Report**

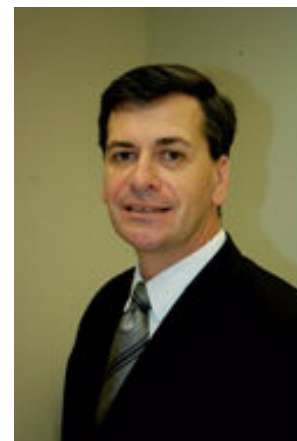
You will recall that Council prepared a submission to the Productivity Commission Health Workforce Study in July 2005. This was in response to a draft paper which was circulated by the Commission for comments. A new position paper has now been released by the Commission. A copy of the paper can be accessed at

<http://www.pc.gov.au/study/healthworkforce/positionpaper/index.html>

. Comments on the paper have been invited by Friday 11 November, 2005. It is of course important that CDNM (ANZ) examines the potential implications of the latest position paper and prepares and submits a response representing our views. The Executive will be addressing this item in its October meeting. We have asked Emeritus Professor Richard Johnson to begin analysing the document and to prepare a summary of points which we will need to address in our response. We will circulate the draft CDNM response to all members for comments in due course.

### **Global Summit for Deans of Nursing, London, UK, December 2005**

A number of members of Council will be attending this meeting in London on 5 and 6 December. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss international collaboration, and ways in which we may be able to work together to our mutual benefit. The UK, USA, Canada and Australia will be represented at the meeting. The agenda has not been finalised at this stage. The Executive will consider items we may wish to



have considered within the next couple of weeks.

### **Response to the RQF Preferred Model**

We have now submitted Council's response to the RQF Proposed Model. I am sure that we will all await the Federal Government's final position in relation to the RQF and RAE with interest. Thanks again to Professor Sioban Nelson for leading development of the CDNM(ANZ) response and also to Professor Richard Johnson for his invaluable input.

Best wishes and regards  
Professor John Daly  
Chair of Council

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## Membership Update

### Head of School Changes

Dr Catherine Rogers Clark appointed Head, Department of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Southern Queensland

Associate Professor Margot Kearns appointed Dean, College of Nursing, University of Notre Dame, NSW

The following Deans will resign from office at the end of September 2005:

Professor Annette Summers (University of SA);

Professor Alison Tierney (University of Adelaide);

Professor Olga Kanitsaki (RMIT University)

## Report from the Immediate Past Chair

One of the Council's strategic priorities is to increase collaboration with other similar groups. To this end I met with my counterparts in the Council of Deans of Medical Schools, and the Deans of Health Sciences. These two groups are keen to collaborate on relevant issues and a further meeting is planned for later this year. I have also been negotiating a meeting with the Deans of Education and we have recently received an invitation to address their next meeting to discuss potential collaboration. We have been striving to set up similar international collaborative arrangements and I met with the Dean's representatives from Canada and the UK at the recent ICN in Taiwan. As a result of that meeting, a summit is being hosted by the Council of Deans and Heads of UK University Faculties for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting and will be attended by counterparts from Canada, USA and other countries. The summit is planned for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December in London.

A meeting was also arranged with the ANZ-CCN to discuss the proposed RAE. This meeting was well received by the group who thanked us for briefing them on the topic. A further meeting with that group was attended by representatives of the APNF and the briefing papers prepared for Ministers were tabled at that meeting for discussion. As a result of the discussion at that meeting, a summit was organised to allow for greater discussion and debate on

issues of common interest. This is a positive step forward for communicating with the ANZ-CCN and should now be ongoing.

The Council has continued to take an active role on the N3ET Alliance. The important work of the Taskforce is now well underway and it is important that members of the Council take an active role in this work. To this end a number of working parties are currently being chaired by members of this group.

The RAE poses a significant challenge to nursing as well as many other disciplines within academia in this country. Council took a proactive role on the issue and established a working party chaired by Professor Sioban Nelson. Sioban drafted the Council response to the Issues Paper, led an informative workshop on the proposed model and is now working up the draft response to the proposed model on behalf of the Council.

The Council currently has a number of important projects underway. A Faculty Practice Position Paper has been commissioned and this is being developed by Professor Colin Holmes. Council thought it was important to develop a current position on this issue because of its impact on workloads and funding in academia. The update of the Australia and New Zealand Nurse Supply and Demand

Report was commissioned and is currently being undertaken by Barbara Preston. This project will assist Council and its members to more accurately predict required student numbers in the future.

The Council was asked to manage the *Aged Care in Nursing Curricula Projects* on behalf of the Department of Health and Ageing. Unfortunately, as we do not have an ABN number, we could not be contracted. Therefore, the contract is with James Cook University on behalf of the Council. This was deemed prudent by the Executive as the current Chair was required to be on the selection panel necessitating their School be excluded from applying. The projects are now under review and the successful applicants will be notified in the near future.

At the recent AGM of the Council, Professor John Daly was elected to the position of Chair. I welcome John to this role and wish him all the best in the position. I am confident John will provide strong leadership and vision to the Council. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported me during my two year term as Chair and look forward to my ongoing role as Immediate Past Chair for the next two years.

Kim Usher

## Committee Reports

Report on: Nursing and Information Technology (An Australian Nursing Federation project in partnership with University of Southern Queensland and funded by the Australian Government).

Jennifer Hardy, Senior Lecturer, ACU National, School of Nursing (NSW) – Representative for the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery

An overview of the project was presented to the steering committee in the first meeting (teleconference) in February along with a timeline of activities for the year. The membership of the group includes representatives from the: Department of Health and Aging; Association for Australian Rural Nurses; Royal College of Nursing Australia; Nursing Informatics; Council of Remote Area Nurses Association; Chief Nursing Officers;

Australian Healthcare Association and Geriaction. The group have met face-to-face in April, teleconferenced in June and are scheduled for another face-to-face meeting in September (19<sup>th</sup>) with two more teleconferences (dates to be confirmed) scheduled up to the end of the year.

From the commencement of the project group members have been engaged in interviews and consultation as part of the survey development process. The survey has now been developed, administered and analysis completed. The results of the survey are the subject of the September meeting. A series of e-bulletins have been produced to communicate project progress and can be accessed from [http://www.anf.org.au/it\\_project](http://www.anf.org.au/it_project).

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2005

## Images from the 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner



↑ Professor Annette Summers, Dr Neal Blewett, Professor Kathleen Fahy



↑ Professor Pauline Nugent, Adjunct Professor Belinda Moyes, Professor Patrick Crookes, Adjunct Professor Kathy Baker, Ms Maria Fernandez



→Adjunct Professor Colin Holmes, Associate Professor Kim Usher

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<http://www.cdnm.edu.au>

## Upcoming Events

1. Council meetings - 16-17 February 2006, Auckland, New Zealand. Venue is to be advised.
2. Draft Health Training Package—Responses due 28 October 2005
3. Productivity Commission's Position Paper 'Australia' s Health Workforce' - Submissions due 11 November 2005
4. Aged Care Component in UG Nursing Curricula Initiatives: Expressions of interest for Initiative 3 : *Development of an online clearing house of aged care education material for use and access by university Schools of Nursing* called for. Due date 11 November 2005
5. Global Summit— 5 -6 December 2005, London : International meeting with Nursing Deans from the UK, US and Canada

## Images from the 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner continued



←Professor Elizabeth Davies, Dr Joan Godfrey, Ms Jillian Jeffery, Professor Helen Edwards

→Recipients of the CDNM Award in Recognition of Outstanding Professional Contribution and Leadership during the Transfer and Establishment of Nursing into Higher Education in Australia and to the Overall Development of the Profession of Nursing

