



Australian Infection Control Association

National News

Issue 38

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The aim of this newsletter is to keep all members informed and updated with the activities of the AICA Executive team. This newsletter is distributed to members quarterly as an insert to Healthcare Infection.

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Mission:

AICA provides infection control practitioners with a professional profile, identifies and promotes professional standards and lobbies with one voice on behalf of infection control practitioners

From the President's Desk

An exciting time ahead for the Association

Dear AICA members,

As you should all be aware AICA is undergoing a significant process of review and restructure. Following the AICA AGM held in Perth the membership voted in favour of moving toward a national model through the appointment of a steering committee to guide us through the next 12 months.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce to you the successful applicants for the National Consultative Steering Committee (NCSC) whom will be working for AICA in the next 12 months. All applicants were required to pass a rigorous selection process which involved short listing, structured interview via phone, a final powerpoint presentation to myself and Sylvia Gandossi and, referee checks. I thank all applicants and Julie Finucane (Selection panel member, Executive director CENA) for their time and contributions during this process and look forward to seeing the work of the newly formed NCSC transpire into creating a competitive, professional National model that we can be proud of. It is important to note that each committee member was appointed to represent the national interests of AICA regardless of their home state and professional affiliations.

We welcome to the NCSC the following members who may be well known to you:

- Marija Juraja (SA)
- Ramon Shaban (Qld)
- Belinda Henderson (Qld)
- Brett Mitchell (Tas)
- Paul Smollen (NSW)

I am also extremely pleased to announce Philip Russo as Chair of the NCSC. Phil is well known for his professional approach to difficult and challenging situations and has considerable expertise in leading change at a National level, most recently with is appointment as Project Coordinator for HHA. John Campbell from John Campbell Communication and Marketing has also been appointed to support the functions of this committee which will hold their first scheduled meeting this Friday. John and the NCSC will also work alongside our appointed legal company, Moore's Legal.

The process has been a long but valuable one and it was essential that we ensured we have the right people on the committee to undertake what is possibly the most important project AICA has initiated since its inception in 1985.

Further information will be communicated to members via the AICA website, AICAlist, and notice to the State and Territory Associations in the coming weeks. A special section within the existing AICA website will be created to keep all AICA members up dated. If you have any questions about the process or what is expected of the NCSC, please contact me via email: admin@aica.org.au

Claire Boardman, AICA President

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State and Territory News

South Australia

Education

Over 30 people attended an evening seminar recently which focused on Safety & Quality and Risk Management. The information was well received and stimulated some healthy discussion regarding the role of safety & quality and the application of risk management principles to everyday issues in healthcare.

AGM

The annual general meeting was held during the evening. This was a non voting AGM so Executive Officers remained the same. However, it did give the opportunity for those present to hear the results of the AICA AGM held recently during the conference in Perth and what will happen during the coming 12 months. Members were also encouraged to consider completing the Credentialing process to become a credentialed ICP and to submit a journal article to the Healthcare Infection Journal.

Membership

Don't forget membership renewal was due in June – if you haven't already done so please take the time to renew or if you are not a member consider joining using the PayPal facilities which are now available on our new website. Visit the website www.icasa.org.au

State Conference 2011

Planning has commenced for a State conference in August 2011. It should be an interesting and exciting program and a great opportunity to hear interesting speakers and topics. A call for abstracts will be announced early in the New Year.

Linda Henderson

Newsletter Representative

New South Wales

AGM

On 17th September ICA NSW held their AGM and Education Day. Our new Executive is:

Barbara May – President

Lindy Ryan – Vice President

Toni Schouten – Treasurer

Maureen McKenzie – Secretary

Julie Hunt – AICA Representative

Julie Gallard – Website Manager

Helen O'Harae – Newsletter Editor

Cate Quoye

Leigh Boivin

We welcome Cate and Leigh as new Executive members. We say goodbye to Joe-Anne Bendall and Paul Smollen, who have left the Executive to follow other paths in their

careers. Thank you for your time and efforts that you have invested in our Association.

We also took the opportunity to organise a teleconference with Claire Boardman so that members could find out a bit more information on the proposal to be voted on at the AICA AGM. Unfortunately, the phone that we used timed out every 2 minutes, which was very frustrating for all, and we apologise for this inconvenience.

Education

As part of our AGM day we incorporated education sessions for the members who were able to attend. Dr Craig Boutlis joined us with a very educational and entertaining presentation on *Clostridium difficile*; Lindy Ryan gave us ideas on writing Strategic and Action Plans; and Vivienne Black fired us up with Positive Powerful Leadership strategies.

We are looking at how we will organise education over the coming two years, as we will have work to do with hosting the 2012 National conference. Thoughts and ideas will be gratefully accepted.

On behalf of the ICA NSW Executive, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas, and may 2011 be pleasant and productive.

Helen O'Harae

Newsletter Representative

Tasmania

Current TICA Developments

As many of you are aware Anne Wells is the Professional development officer and is currently planning several education sessions in conjunction with TIPCU both in the north and south of the state during 2011.

TICA AGM

The upcoming AGM on the 2nd December has created an opportunity for members to nominate for positions on the Executive. All vacant positions have had nominations forwarded and members now have clearer nomination process. All members not able to attend the AGM are encouraged to become involved by providing a proxy vote. Any member requiring assistance with this please contact the TICA executive.

AICA Conference 2010

All who attended the conference in Perth would agree it was very successful and our congratulations go to the organizing committee for a job well done. The 4 beneficiaries of the \$1000 bursaries thank TICA for this fantastic education and professional development opportunity to attend the 2010 Conference in Perth.

AICA Restructure

As TICA members you will now be aware at the AGM in Perth it was agreed to restructure AICA. We look forward to a proposed new frame work being presented over the next year.

2011 TICA Conference

Just a reminder to all members that this will come around fast and anyone wishing to nominate to be on the organizing committee should get in touch with the Executive. This is a great opportunity to participate in organizing a major event and have support of experienced people to guide and advise you as a new member. You may be able to bring new ideas and valuable talents to this committee

Jenny Stubbings

Newsletter Representative

Australian Capital Territory

Welcome to all our new members.

This will be my final contribution as the Membership / Public Officer as I have handed over the reins to Ailsa Stevenson.

AGM

The AGM was held on Thursday 7th September 2010 at 7.30am with a good turn up of members. The election of executive committee members was undertaken. The new executive committee is as follows:

President: Philippa Keating

Secretary: Fiona Kimber

Treasurer: Wendy Beckingham

Publicity Officer: Ailsa Stevenson

Education Sessions

Our breakfast meetings have continued to be a great success.

By the time this newsletter goes to print we will have held another meeting on Wednesday 10th November. Dr Michael Levy, Medical Director Community and Corrections Health will be talking on infection control issues in correctional facilities in the ACT.

Suggestions for future speakers are encouraged and can be forwarded to one of the committee members as we hope to continue providing these breakfast educational meetings in 2011.

Details for our annual Christmas dinner are yet to be finalised. Members will be notified of the date and venue in the near future.

Elaine Graham-Robertson Award

Congratulations to Sue Van der Graaf, the recipient of the Elaine Graham Robertson award which was presented to her at the conference dinner in Perth.

Scholarships

Scholarships have been awarded to Fiona Kimber and Dinah Morrison to enable them to attend the AICA conference in Perth. They were very appreciative as the scholarship covered all the costs incurred in attending the conference.

Membership

As mentioned above the new membership / public officer is Ailsa Stevenson and membership or journal enquires can be directed to her at clinicalmanager@surgicentre.com.au

Kerry Gill

Newsletter Representative

Victoria

Bi-monthly VICPA/VICNISS Journal Club

Date and venues for upcoming Journal Clubs are as follows:

10th December 2010

The Alfred Hospital

Dates and venues for the 2011 journal clubs are currently being finalised. If you are interested in hosting a journal club next year please contact either Wendy Bacalja (bacaljaw@dhsv.org.au) or Kate O'Donaghue (kate.odonaghue@thewomens.org.au). For speakers and articles to be discussed see the VICPA website www.vicpa.org.au closer to the date.

Construction and Renovation Workshop

If you are interested in attending a construction and renovation workshop please contact Wendy Bacalja (bacaljaw@dhsv.org.au).

APSIC 2011

The 5th International Congress of the Asia Pacific Society of Infection Control is being hosted by VICPA and will be held in Melbourne 8 – 11 November 2011. The venue for the conference is the newly opened Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre situated on the Yarra River.

The scientific program is progressing and will include several key note speakers from both the international and local infection control communities. For more information on the conference and key dates please visit the website at www.APSIC2011.com.

Donna Cameron

Newsletter Representative

Queensland**Membership**

ICPAQ would like to welcome new members since the last AICA newsletter:

- Larnie Wright – Caboolture Private Hospital
- Alan Pemberton – Symbio Australia
- Dawn Rodwell – The Prince Charles Hospital
- Cherie Tickner – Sarina Hospital & Primary Health Care Centre
- Francina Ferreira – Greenslopes Private Hospital

Scholarships

Applications were received for both categories of the 2010 Education Scholarships, and while the awarding of the scholarships will have occurred by the time you are reading this edition of the newsletter, the successful applicants are still to be confirmed (as at the 18th October).

Unfortunately there were no scholarship applications for the four AICA Credentialing Scholarships this year.

Retiring & Current Management Committee

The current ICPAQ Management Committee would like to sincerely thank the members who have retired from management positions after the September AGM, for their energy and hard work during their terms: Dr Deborah MacBeth (former Membership Secretary) and Jodie Powel (former Vice President).

The ICPAQ Management Committee for 2010 – 2011 is as follows:

- President – Michael Wishart
- Vice President – Robyn Birch
- Treasurer – Sara Godden
- Assistance Treasurer – Kathy Duggan
- Membership Secretary – Jacinta Faloon
- Conference Convenor – Alex Abandowitz
- Document Review Subcommittee Coordinator – Kathy Taylor
- Secretary – Susie Nielson
- Editor – Meagan Hunter
- Public Relations Officer – Jane Brooks
- Education Officer – vacant

Education

By the time you are reading this, the Centre for Health Related Infection Surveillance and Prevention (CHRISP) will have run a workshop on the 13th November, on “Infection Control Implications of Health Care Facility Planning, Building & Refurbishment”, at the Royal Brisbane & Women’s Hospital Education Centre, Herston. Approximately 60 participants are to attend; including 11 ICP’s from the private sector.

Meagan Hunter

Newsletter Representative

Western Australia

AICA 2010 Conference: A Success Story!

The 6th Biennial AICA Conference 2010 Infection Control Odyssey has been an outstanding success. This could not have been possible without the overwhelming support and attendance of our conference sponsors, exhibitors, speakers and delegates. The Organising and Scientific Committees extend a sincere thank you to everyone including the conference PCO ASHM for making a 2 year journey a reality. Over the coming months we look forward to reporting on the final outcomes of the conference.

Megan Reilly
Chairperson

AICA 2010 Conference
Committee

Helen Cadwallader
Chairperson

AICA 2010 Scientific
Organising Committee

ICAWA Membership

In September 2010, membership of ICAWA was 129, with new members welcome and renewals encouraged. The new 2011 membership renewal form will soon be available via the AICA website. Members are reminded that direct transfer payments are now available with payment details available on the updated form.

ICAWA Newsletter

The newsletter continues to focus on local news, events and publications. Each edition features the profile of an ICAWA member. The newsletter is distributed electronically as a PDF attachment. Both anecdotal and formal feedback has been positive.

Bookkeeping Services

The Executive acknowledge there have been increasing regulatory and reporting demands placed on maintaining ICAWA’s financial records. In order to meet the necessary bookkeeping requirements, external paid bookkeeping options are being explored. The bookkeeper would undertake duties under the direction of the Treasurer. Quotations are being finalised.

ICAWA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

A call for nominations for 8 Executive Member positions was made to ICAWA members in June 2010. Nominations have been received for Newsletter Editor; Secretary and Ordinary Member.

A quorum was not attained on the 15th October; hence the AGM has been rescheduled for a breakfast meeting on the 28th October 2010. The Executive have encourage members to participate in the AGM and will be offering the ability to attend the AGM via teleconferencing for members. Details for the teleconferencing link will be forwarded soon.

At the AGM, members will vote on matters arising from a lack of executive position nominations including: less frequent meetings; temporary merging of positions; opportunities for teleconferencing and alternative education/workshop options.

Susan Swaby and Allison Peterson

Newsletter Representatives

Other news

Reports

Did you know that all the reports tabled at the monthly AICA executive meeting are available via the AICA website members only section? This might be just what you have been searching for to keep abreast of changes on the national front and to find out what is discussed at the AICA Executive meetings.

Claire Boardman, AICA President