



AUGUST 2014

Presidents Message

Dear Members

Once again I can update you with exciting progress being achieved by Council with continued movement toward the new framework for AAQHC. Council has been meeting several times each month in the hope that the changes can all be in place for endorsement at the Annual General Meeting later this year.

Despite our efforts to apply a “quick fix” to refresh and update, the website has continued to have some issues and further work is being performed. Robyn Quinn has generously taken on the Secretariat role for Council and has provided more details about the website in the body of the newsletter.

Our call for subscriptions from those wishing to renew memberships and from new members has been delayed slightly by our website issues. The website needs to be functioning effectively to allow members to renew memberships or join easily, and to allow Council to manage the administrative functions efficiently. We will notify you as soon as this is available and are hoping that will be by the end of August.

The time to advertise both upcoming vacancies for elected representatives, and for our four new skills based positions on Council, has arrived. Further details are contained within the Newsletter. Please consider nominating for a position either as the elected representative for your area (if there is a vacancy), or for one of the skills based positions. I encourage anyone interested to step forward and become involved in Council. It is a rewarding role that will also allow you to work with wonderful, talented people from across Australia and New Zealand – an opportunity that few of us would otherwise encounter.

Thank you for your continued commitment to AAQHC. Watch-out for updates through emails and on the website and please rejoin and continue to support this important Association.

Belinda Westlake

President AAQHC

Website Update

Exciting news for all members of AAQHC, with the next ten days AAQHC will have a new interactive website available for your use.

The new website will contain news of events, conferences, position vacant and importantly you will be able to pay your membership fees. The newsletter will also be published on the website.

We will also have new email addresses which will be on the website.

Keep checking for this exciting development.

Robyn Quinn

SKILLS BASED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Call for Expression of Interest for AAQHC Council Skill Based Positions

Applications are open for members to apply for a volunteer skills-based position on the AAQHC Council.

The skills based positions provide the Association with expertise in membership management; business/governance; marketing/ consumer; and research/education and/or evaluation and do not represent or promote the views of any affiliated organisation.

Key Selection Criteria include:

Competency and experience in any of the following skills:

- membership management;
- business/ governance;
- marketing;
- consumer participation;
- research/education
- evaluation.

Ability to apply strategic thought to key issues

A willingness to lead activities that enable the Council to meet its objectives

Commitment to supporting activities that promote the growth of the Association

Proven leadership qualities

An ability to develop a clear vision within the area of skill and develop an implementation strategy



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Applications should be in writing, addressing the key selection criteria and providing contact details for two referees.

Applications should be emailed to: beth.mcerlean@health.sa.gov.au

For any enquiries please contact Belinda Westlake, President AAQHC by emailing bwestlake@moynehealth.vic.gov.au

Formal applications close: 10/09/2014

A role description is provided for your information

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Organisational Objective

AAQHC, through its members, seeks to promote principles and innovative practice of quality improvement and risk management that is grounded in evidence and supports the perspectives of the patient, families and carers through the facilitation of opportunities for communication, cooperation, ongoing education and exchange of ideas and experiences and the development of relevant products and services that support clinicians, managers and others in the quality and safety arena. The Association is composed of members from Australian States, Territories, New Zealand and the Asia Pacific Region.

The Council is composed of elected representatives from Australian States, Territories, New Zealand and the Asia Pacific Region together with four appointed skill based positions. The skills based positions provide the Association with expertise in membership management; business/governance; marketing/ consumer; and research/education and/or evaluation and do not represent or promote the views of any affiliated organisation.

The Registrar of the Professional Development Advisory Committee and the Immediate Past President are also members of the Council.

Role Objectives

Council members collectively are accountable to the membership for the governance of the AAQHC and for supporting and promoting its strategic development and growth.

Primary Responsibilities

Council members are responsible for ensuring the business and activities of the Australasian Association for Quality in Health

Care (AAQHC) are conducted in accordance with the Constitution of the AAQHC and any applicable laws, rules and regulations as may impact upon the business of the AAQHC.

Key roles of Council members include:

- Facilitation and implementation of strategies that assist the Association meet its organisational objectives;
- Ensuring that the business of the Association and the Council is at all times managed in the best interests of the members
- Contributing to the development of policies and procedures designed to ensure the efficient and effective running of the Association
- Ensuring that proper financial practices and controls are in place
- Ensuring compliance with legal requirements
- Being alert to opportunities and concerns that can be addressed by AAQHC's objectives, programs and services.

Key Selection Criteria for the Four Skills based positions

Competency and experience in any of the following skills:

- membership management;
- business/ governance;
- marketing;
- consumer participation;
- research/education
- evaluation.

Ability to apply strategic thought to key issues

A willingness to lead activities that enable the Council to meet its objectives

Commitment to supporting activities that promote the growth of the Association

Proven leadership qualities

An ability to develop a clear vision within the area of skill and develop an implementation strategy

Other Information

Selection Process

Nominations for four skills based positions will be called from the general membership of the Association

A Selection Panel, consisting of the Executive Council, will review nominations and make recommendations to the AAQHC Council

The membership of the AAQHC will endorse the nominations at its Annual General Meeting.

If no suitable nomination is found from within the general membership a call for nominations will be made to the general public.

Successful skills-based Council members drawn from the public must join the Association following endorsement of their nomination at the Annual General Meeting.



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Conditions

The role of the Council member is held on a voluntary basis with no remuneration, however all approved meeting and Association business expenses will be reimbursed. The initial appointment is for a two or three year period (to allow continuity in future years)

The Council meets monthly by teleconference and at least once annually face to face.

Application

Applications should be in writing, addressing the key selection criteria and providing contact details for two referees.

Applications should be emailed to: beth.mcerlean@health.sa.gov.au

For any enquiries please contact Belinda Westlake, President AAQHC by emailing bwestlake@moynehealth.vic.gov.au

Formal applications close: 10/09/2014

REGIONAL NEWS

News from NSW.

The Clinical Excellence Commission has a range of new resources available as well as new initiatives underway in NSW:

- **10 Years of Quality & Safety**
4 August 2014 marked the 10 Year Anniversary of the CEC - [read more](#)
- **Clinical Incident Management Portal**
11 August - New data released [here](#)



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This web-based clinical incident management report has been prepared by the Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) Patient Safety Team to provide the community with information on clinical incidents reported in the NSW public health system between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2013. Clinical incident management reports are compiled twice a year as part of NSW Health and the CEC's commitment to keeping the community informed about incidents relating to patient care, this is the first web-based publication.

- **2014 Quality Systems Assessment (QSA) now open [for NSW](#)**
QSA Self-Assessment [resources](#)

Opens: Monday, 4 August 2014 - **Closes:** Friday, 19 September 2014

The QSA helps local teams to proactively identify and improve upon clinical risks that have the potential to cause patient harm. The self-assessment is the first step in the QSA cycle and enables a safe challenge to the reliability and resilience of local patient safety and clinical quality *systems*. Each year, a new set of priority topics are selected for the QSA process. In 2014, the priority topics are:

- Health Care Teams
- Nutrition care
- Pressure Injury Prevention

Downloadable PDFs of the NSW 2014 Self-Assessment are available on the CEC website.

- **Hand Hygiene new campaign**

Launched on the 5 May 2014. To read more about 'Clean in, Clean Out' click here:

<http://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/programs/hand-hygiene/hand-hygiene-campaign-launch>

- **Blood Watch - New patient brochures available in 11 languages.** *A General Guide to Blood Transfusion: Information for Patients and Families* (English) [here](#) or as a PDF in Arabic, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, Filipino, Greek, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Macedonian, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese [here](#).
- **Reporting to the Public about Safety and Quality**

The CEC will soon be releasing the 2014 edition of *The Community Update for Safety and Quality in Health Care*. Community Update is designed to provide the community with online information on the progress of NSW public hospitals across key areas of quality and safety.

A joint CEC/ISQua-hosted webinar about reporting to the community on safety and quality will be held on Tuesday 9th Sept 8.30am EST with guest speaker Dr Karen Luxford, CEC Director, Patient Based Care. For further information, watch the ISQua website.



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- **Registration fees at 2012 rates!**
- **Early bird discount closes 28th July, 2014**
- The third Australasian Conference on Error in Medical Imaging will take place in Adelaide on
- 21st & 22nd November, 2014.
- The theme for this multi-disciplinary conference will be 'making imaging safer' through information technology, quality improvement, informatics, human factors and systems approaches. Established and emerging issues in patient safety in radiology, will be addressed including:
 - Safety of radiology systems and health information technology
 - Justification of medical imaging
 - Risk management and liability in medical imaging
 - The impact of adverse events on healthcare workers
 - Patient centred care
 - Adverse event reporting
 - Surgical safety checklists
- To obtain the full program of speakers and workshops, or to register for the Conference, go to
www.ausconfonerrorinmedicalimaging.com.au



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ISQua Fellowship

Scholarships to undertake the ISQua Fellowship

Call for Applications

Applications closing date: 1st October 2014

The International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua) is pleased to offer applicants from developing countries or countries with economies in transition, scholarship places in the ISQua Fellowship Programme.

The scholarships aim to identify and support up and coming 'leaders', who would benefit from a range of learning opportunities enhancing their professional development. Priority will be given to professionals who are relatively junior in their careers and whose organisations are considered least able to afford such an opportunity. The scholarships do not target senior country officials working for well recognised institutions.

The scholarship covers:

- Course fees for the Fellowship Programme at the chosen level (Fellowship - €400, Associate Fellowship - €200 and Certificate of Achievement €150)*
- Individual Membership of ISQua until the end of the year from the point of graduation

The Scholarship DOES NOT COVER

- Annual maintenance fees post graduation

*Successful Scholarship recipients are expected to fund their own maintenance fees post graduation

The Scholar must:



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- Write a submission of approx. 300-500 words on how he/she would benefit from being part of the ISQua Fellowship Programme on both professional and personal levels.

To apply for a scholarship:

- Complete an application using the application form provided.
- Attach your CV - not more than 2 pages

Application forms can be downloaded

from: <http://www.isqua.org/education/fellowship-scholarship-programme>

For enquires and/or to send completed applications, contact: Yulianna Susla at ysusla@isqua.org or Eveline Holmes at eholmes@isqua.org

Please note applications received after 1st October 2014 will not be accepted.



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