



## DIABETES NURSE SPECIALIST CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: AGM 20TH APRIL, 2010

**National Executive Committee:** Currently there are 5 vacancies to fill at this AGM and nominations have been sought, so members of the committee continue to encourage colleagues to join the national executive committee or Accreditation board. The committee is made of hard working professional diabetes nurse specialists who contribute to the professionalism leadership of the diabetes nurse specialists section.

**Membership:** Jenny Brittlund is the outgoing membership secretary and has the email contact tree running smoothly with administration support from NZNO. Currently there are 351 members. In order to receive information and be kept informed it is the responsibility of members to keep their contact details up to date with NZNO. If members have any queries please contact a committee member to discuss any concerns. We have both full and associate members. There is no fee to belong to the section, membership is determined by hours worked in diabetes, and full members have full voting rights. The status of full or associate membership is historical and in the future members may wish to discuss this issue further.

**Treasurer:** Mele has done a great job as treasurer and the section is in a good position financially. Details of the finances will be presented at our AGM on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April. Mele is resigning from the committee at this AGM and a new member will take up this office. We wish Mele well in the future and appreciate her continued involvement in the section.

**Newsletter 'On Target',** the newsletter is posted on the website and a hard copy is posted to members who do not have email access. A Paediatric supplement has been added to the newsletter and is well received. Contributions from our colleagues working with children will be sourced, remember contributions to the DNSS newsletter are welcomed. The newsletter continues to be produced quarterly, and usually goes out after meeting. Our sincere thanks go to Julie Symons for all her work as editor of the newsletter. Julie has recently resigned from the committee. This role will be taken over by an incoming member.

**Website:** Pauline Giles is the contact person on the committee for any information for the website. Pauline has updated the website and hopefully members will find this now more relevant and useful. Contact Pauline if you have any comments in regard to the website.

**Business and Operational Plan:** the annual business and operational plan for 2010/2011 has been completed. Mele Kaufusi the treasurer continues to work closely with Mark Speers (accountant, NZNO).

**Regional Round up:** Howard Brown is responsible for the regional round up. This will feature in the up and coming newsletters. If you have any innovative ideas to use in practice, new programmes or something that is working well in your region, we would like to hear from you. Networking and sharing of information and collegial support is invaluable within our speciality and I think you would all agree something diabetes nurses are very skilled at.

**Accreditation Board:** Funding of the accreditation board will be separated as of April 2010, in order for the accreditation board to operate more effectively; the board will be funded so that they are not reliant solely on the funding from portfolio fees. The accreditation board remains a sub group of the DNSS section and reports directly to the exec committee. It is planned that a member of the executive committee will attend one of the accreditation board meetings annually.

**Scholarship for Diabetes Nurse Specialists:** the DNSS section has established an education scholarship/grant to assist members to attend or participate in events related to diabetes nursing that will further their knowledge i.e. workshops, conferences, study days, post graduate study, accreditation application fee, etc. the grant is \$5000 per annum available for grant/scholarship in 2010 and 2011. The maximum grant will be \$500 per person for post grad study, conferences etc or \$100 toward the accreditation application fee.

**NZSSD, Diabetes Nurse Prescribing Pilot:** The Diabetes Nurse Specialist section support NZSSD in this endeavour. A project team has been set up to explore the development of a designated, collaborative model for enabling Diabetes Nurse Specialists to prescribe within a limited formulary of drugs. This is likely to involve 12-14 individual DNS's over 3-4 sites. There will be other requirements that the DNS will need to fulfil to meet the criteria to enable them to participate in this pilot; these are yet to be determined.

**Chairperson's final comment:** As I come to the end of my term on the committee I have enjoyed the work we have been involved in and the collegiately. I will continue to offer my support for Pauline Giles the incoming chairperson. I would like to acknowledge the work of all members of the team and thank Ann Faherty for her continued fantastic work as secretary for the executive committee. The committee looks forward to the year ahead with some exciting work planned and welcomes input and feedback from the membership.

Chairperson  
DNSS executive committee

*Mary Meendering*