The Australian College of Mental Health Nurses

Strategic Direction 2009-2012

The Australian College of Mental Health Nurses (ACMHN) is the peak professional mental health nursing organization and the recognized credentialing body for mental health nurses in Australia. It seeks to represent the profession at all levels of government and across all health service sectors. In addition, the ACMHN sets standards for practice, supports mental health nursing research and provides a forum for collegial support, networking and ongoing professional development for its members. Importantly, the ACMHN also works to promote public confidence in and professional recognition of mental health nursing.

Mission

Setting the Standard through the pursuit of excellence in Mental Health Nursing

Vision

For the College to expand its influence with legislators, funding bodies and key stakeholders, grow membership and continue to develop its infrastructure.

Strategic Goals

1. Mental Health Promotion and Prevention: improved equity and access to MH services for the Australian Community.
2. Development of the Profession: Credentialing is the identifier of a Specialist MHN; Nationally consistent mental health clinical and theoretical hours in nursing curricula; Development of Online education modules
3. Workforce: Increase the numbers of skilled mental health nurses in the Australian workforce.
4. Influence: Influence the development of health care policy that reflects and includes the role MHN play in the delivery of MH care.
5. College Growth: Increase the profile and relevance of the College across the Mental Health sector and nursing.
6. Communications: National communication network to all nurses and stakeholders in MHN
7. International Partnerships: Establish the college as a key member of the international Mental Health Nursing community and advocate for professional issues in Mental Health Nursing globally and support the development of Mental Health Nursing across all nations.
8. Mental Health Nursing Services in Primary Care: Mental Health nurses have independent recognition in health care funding arrangements.

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Over the 2008/2009 year, I have worked with two College Boards. Prior to October 2008, the previous ‘Council’ assumed the responsibilities of the Board of Directors until the election of a new Board at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in October 2008.

In the College Board’s report for this annual report, the work and commitment of the outgoing Board has been acknowledged as has the calibre of the newly formed Board, and I reinforce these sentiments again here. Each of these Boards has had a face-to-face meeting in the past year, one at the International Conference in Melbourne and one at the national office in Canberra, both of which were very productive in their decision making towards improved governance and strategic reform.

I am also pleased to have been elected by the members as President of the College for a two year term. I was and remain eager to continue with the process of the College’s reform begun under Steve Elsom’s leadership and to contribute to substantial changes towards this goal. I led the committee of Constitutional reform and continue to lead the implementation of the Constitution through revised governance processes. It was particularly heartening to see the members at the 2008 AGM support the Constitutional amendments put forward to correct some anomalies, and also to amend the Constitution to allow the elected Board members and the President to be chosen by the members through a postal ballot in the future. This initiative will, I continue to contend, provide improved access to voting by members and therefore is more democratic in its operation.

The role of President, as an honorary position, can be time demanding, particularly if it is in concert with full-time employment, as has been the case for me until mid-May of this year. It is not always possible to meet all invitations that may be on offer and therefore, this places an additional burden on the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to ensure there is an appropriate level of representation by the College at important events. I am indebted to our CEO, Kim Ryan, for her unrelenting support of my position, of the Board, and of the College interests on behalf of its members.

Many of the activities I have undertaken over the past year have been in close collaboration with Kim. One of these was a meeting with the Secretary to the Commonwealth Minister for Health in order to pursue greater recognition of the College for its position on mental health issues and in particular, on mental health
nursing. I have also managed to have individual face-to-face meetings with the CEO in Canberra on three other occasions during the year. This is apart from several meetings with various committees and individuals at the international conference and other conferences attended.

An important achievement over the last year has been the revision and endorsement of the College’s Strategic Plan. I had the opportunity to present the tenets of this plan at the New South Wales Branch AGM in July 2008 as the guest speaker, and also at the Northern Territory Branch Winter Symposium in August 2008 as one of its keynote speakers. My determination to realise our strategic goals across all components of the College is alive and well. I believe the eight domains the Strategic Plan addresses will serve the College well in terms of its purpose and objects.

Apart from the above visits at Branch level, I also attended: the NSW Branch conference held on the Central Coast of NSW in November 2008; The Primary Mental Health Care conference in Canberra in March 2009; The Greater Western Sydney Regional Branch conference in Parramatta in March 2009; The Hunter Regional Branch conference in Newcastle in May 2009.

In relation to forging international networks by the College, I joined our CEO in a teleconference with the World Health Organisation (WHO) in July 2008 to negotiate the College’s management of its mental health community of practice initiative. Negotiations are continuing with this. Similarly, we attended the Horatio Psychiatric Nursing Festival international conference in Malta in November 2008 and the New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses, Te Au Maramatanga, conference in Wellington in April 2009 where we jointly presented a paper on the issue of forging an international network of mental health nurses. I have also independently taken the opportunity to liaise with the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), the Royal College of Nursing, London and mental health colleagues in Hong Kong when I have had the opportunity to travel overseas. The pursuit of an international dialogue on mental health and mental health nursing is an important commitment by a privileged country such as ours, particularly in encouraging greater collaboration and sharing of knowledge and resources with countries less fortunate.

The link and relationship with Branches and Regional Branches is vitally important and I have attempted to attend as many NSW Branch forums and Central Coast Regional Branch forums and meetings as possible. Also to this end, I have participated closely with the consolidation and development of the Council of Branches which provides a crucial communication link with members and idiosyncratic issues at State and Territory level. I chaired the Council of Branches face-to-face meeting in May 2009. I commend and continue to support the effort and time given by the various committed volunteers in the Branches, Regional Branches, Special Interest Groups and College Committees who have the interest of the College members as their foremost motivation.

I have very much enjoyed the activities of the past year and I look forward to the 2009/2010 year as one of increased productivity.

Peter Santangelo
President.
Forging connections, extending influence

Chief Executive Officer’s Report:
As this is my sixth report to the membership I felt it would be useful to look back and compare where we are now, with where we were in 2004 when I began as the first paid employee of the organisation.

Obviously there have been significant changes in regard to the structure of the organisation – this particularly since the change in Constitution last year - but one of the most important differences is probably that we now have eight paid staff members undertaking a variety of roles. Unfortunately only two of these positions are full time, however, this is still an achievement and it makes an enormous difference to the College and its ability to develop internal process to manage College operations. As a result, a number of activities that were previously completely managed by volunteers (for example, membership, local events management) are now managed primarily internally or external to the organisation, with support from College volunteers – this helps to take some of the burden off our volunteer workforce and also helps to streamline organisational processes.

The College has significantly developed its profile and influence over this period. With the membership base expanding among the profession - we now have 2040 members with at least 1 new application every day or so. The successful Credential for Practice Program continues to expand, particularly in response to the CPP’s use as the standard for the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program. We now have more than 400 Credentialed Mental Health Nurses.

We have successfully introduced the Mental Health Nurse Ambassador program through which the College promotes and raises awareness of the profession to students and with other nurses.

The Mental Health Nursing Student Online Support project has supported nurses studying for post graduate mental health nursing qualifications, via a mentorship program and the development of an online community of practice. In addition, we launched the new ACMHN website at the Conference - a great achievement and now providing up to date information to members in an easy to navigate format.

Early in 2009 the College undertook an operational review to determine if the national office was well placed, operationally, to carry out the work associated with the College’s strategic plan for 2009-2012. The review was conducted by an external consultant who identified a number of gaps we are now in the process of addressing. Responding to and driving policy development (from a State and Federal level) is one gap that was identified, not only by the consultant but by the executive and members. We are addressing this particular gap through the recruitment of a Policy and Project Officer.

Personally, I feel like my feet have rarely touched the ground this past year. There is so much to do and so few working hours to do it in! This year I have remained the Chair of the Mental Health Professionals Association, which has continued to be an interesting and challenging collaboration. The Mental
Health Professionals Network project has been rolled out nationally and as a Board Member, I am pleased to report that the workshops are being well received and that there has been some mental health nursing representation across the board. This year I was elected as the Chair of the Coalition of National Nurses Organisation (CoNNO) – we have established a governance structure and various other things that I am proud of. I was also extremely honoured this year to receive an Adjunct Associate Professorship from the University of Sydney.

With a view to our goal of developing international partnerships, I have also built some successful relationships and contacts over the past 12 months – when I was in Geneva attending the ICN Health Professionals Regulations Conference and was fortunate enough to meet with Jean Yan, the Director of the World Health Organisation. We discussed international mental health and I broached the subject of us developing a national mental health/psychiatric nurse network. As a result of this conversation Jean offered the College the opportunity to coordinate the WHO's International Mental Health Community of Practice, which was a great honour but which will require ongoing discussion. With so much on our plate from a national perspective, it has taken longer than I would have anticipated for us to come to an agreement about what this project might entail. However, this is a project we will definitely be pursuing over coming months and years.

The next year will be a time of exciting challenges as external forces impact on the profession, particularly the move to national registration which will influence how mental health nurses are identified as specialist professionals in Australia from 1 July 2010. The development of guidelines for Nurse Practitioners to access the MBS and PBS will be eagerly awaited.

On the horizon for the next year for the College is:
- Release of a set of draft standards for consideration by the membership
- The development of a Scope of Practice for Mental Health Nursing
- Continued pursuit of the establishment of an international online Community of Practice for mental health nursing in collaboration with the World Health Organisation.

The College has existed now for 35 years - for 31 of those years through voluntary support only. This is a remarkable commitment to mental health nursing and to the College by its members. The commitment of volunteers is as important now as it has been over each and every one of these 35 years. To all the volunteers who have worked so tirelessly to keep the College afloat, I want to say thank you and your profession says thank you. What we need to do now is to work hard to increase the College membership which will ensure we speak and act on behalf of MHN - the more individuals we represent the louder our political voice and influence.

The College exists to give a voice to mental health nursing and to do this we need to be involved, engaged and listening to mental health nurses. I implore all members to help us do that by sending feedback to the College about whatever matters to you.

I would like to thank Peter Santangelo and the Board for their support and direction over the past 12 months. In addition, my thanks to the Credentialing, the Research, and the Accreditation Committees, the branches, regional branches, and the consultation and liaison special interest group for their hard work and dedication over the year. Many thanks also to those of you who were the organising committee for the wonderful 2009 conference, adroitly lead by the convenor Jon Chesterson, it was a fantastic conference on a professional and social level and I would like to express my personal thanks to each and every one of you.

Of course last but not least, thanks to all the staff of the College for their dedication to the College and their willingness to always go above and beyond the call of duty.

Kim Ryan
CEO
The changing face of College governance

Following the adoption of the new Constitution of the College in October 2007, the previous governing body’s ‘Council’ members, who were elected by the State or Territory Branch and representing their respective State or Territory, took on the governing role and responsibility as the Board of Directors. This Board had the task of implementing the new governing requirements under the Constitution and preparing the ground for an election, by the members, of a President and five other Board Directors. This new role also required a shift in emphasis for the Board Directors from one of State or territory representative to one of governance of the College as a single entity. In addition, this Board needed to set a precedent of concerning itself more with strategic and governance issues and less to operational issues for which the Chief Executive Officer was responsible.

This new Board is to be commended for its willingness to embrace and enact these concepts and responsibilities that went with them. Driving this motivation was a vision of reform for the College as an even more viable influence on the future of mental health in Australia and in particular, on mental health nursing.

In accordance with the Constitution, the Council of Branches comprising the chairs of each State and Territory Branch, was formed with one of its members to be nominated as a Board Director representing those issues of concern to the States and Territories. This Board Director is one of the few able to be appointed to the Board. The Chair of the Council of Branches was chosen to be this appointed Board Director and Sharon Olsson, occupying the Chair of the Council of Branches, joined the College Board of Directors.

Elections for the position of President and five Board Directors took place the College Annual General Meeting in October 2008. Not all sitting Board Directors nominated for positions for the forthcoming Board. Leaving the Board was Cecily Pollard (Tasmania), Kerin O’Brien (Australian Capital Territory), Rebekah Ashby (Western Australia) and Neil Spencer (Northern Territory). Each of these members participated and supported the agenda of reform set for the College. Their contribution in this process, and, for some, many years of involvement in College governance, all given in a voluntary capacity, is very much appreciated and the College is a stronger entity for it.

The sitting President, Peter Santangelo, nominated for the position of President and Bernie Stefan-Rasmus and Christine Palmer nominated for positions as Board Directors. Each of these nominations were successful in a vote by College members at the AGM along with new Board Directors Brenda Happell, Pat Bradley and Stephen Carroll. In accordance with the Constitution, Sharon Olsson remained in her appointed position as Board Director. The Board Directors comprises a varied mix of expertise and experience across a range of mental health nursing fields and has maintained some continuity in its Directors.

A vision for the future

One of the first tasks of the Board of Directors, both prior to and after the elections in October 2008, was to better define a vision for the future through a revised strategic plan. A first draft of the strategic plan was accepted by the Board in July 2008 and an amended and more detailed plan was endorsed by the Board in February 2009. The Board had the goal of setting its strategic direction in a way that was achievable within the College’s limited resources, in accordance with the objects of the College and at the same time providing a platform that all components of the College could use to guide their activities.

The strategic plan covers eight main domains, listed as strategic goals with targeted operational strategies, expected outcomes and performance indicators, which the Board continues to monitor with an aim to achieve significant outcomes in each of the following areas: 1. Mental Health Promotion and Prevention; 2. Professional Development; 3. Workforce; 4. Influence; 5. College Growth; 6. Communications; 7. International Partnerships; 8. Inclusion of Mental Health Nursing Services in Primary Care.

Significant achievements

Over the past year, the College Board has been intent on continuing the reform process and to this end has supported a number of initiatives through and with the College’s CEO Kim Ryan, and her staff. Some significant achievements are: 1. Further refinement of Constitutional processes by the successful
Constitutional amendment at the last AGM to elect the President and Board Directors by a postal vote thus allowing greater access by members to the voting process;
2. The development of a manageable strategic plan to guide the vision and direction of the College as a distinct entity;
3. Endorsement of revised financial arrangements for increased accountability, improved budget planning, and compliance with statutory financial requirements;
4. Approval of an external review of the staffing structure in order to ensure staff skills are matched to the future requirements of the College;
5. Approval of an external review of the Credential for Practice Program to ensure its sustainability against international standards;
6. Improved transparency through refinement of processes for College Committee membership recruitment;
7. Providing and funding the Mental Health Nurse of the Year Award;
8. Improved communication processes to members by approval of expansion of the Newsletter and rebuilding the College website;
9. Continued scrutiny of the process to review of the College Standards of Practice for Mental Health Nurses;

Consolidation of the Council of Branches, Audit and Finance Committee and the Accreditation and Endorsement Committee.

The above list is not an exhaustive one but indicative of the constant attention required in order to move forward. There are a number of operational and strategic tasks linked to the strategic plan that are a work in progress. The linchpin in ensuring this is achievable is the work undertaken by our CEO, Kim Ryan and I would like to thank Kim, on behalf of the Board, for her unending commitment.

Peter Santangelo
President.
Overview
During this period the Editorial Office has received 95 manuscripts. This demonstrates only a slight increase from the previous year. The following table provides an overview of the outcomes for these manuscripts.

The international penetration and reputation of the journal has increased significantly, with approximately 60% of submissions coming from countries other than Australia and New Zealand. In particular a significant increase is apparent from the United Kingdom and Sweden, as the following table indicates.

Editorial process
The timing of the Editorial process is an average of 30 days from submission to first response to author(s), and 77 days from submission to final decision. This is an extremely short turnaround time in comparison to other journals.

The time frame from acceptance to publication has also reduced significantly, from an average 51 days in 2007 to 44 in 2008 for on-line publication, and from 63 to 53 days for publication in-print. ISI Listing IJMHN was selected for ISI listing earlier this year. This will result in an impact factor for the journal being available in 2011. The short turnaround times from submission to acceptance and from acceptance to publication, will assist in maximizing the impact factor as manuscripts are more likely to be published when they are still new, thus increasing the opportunity for citations within the required two year period.

Other features
Institutional subscription was maintained at the level for 2007. An increase in the monies received from institutional subscriptions was received. There was also an increase of 4% in the annual downloads to an impressive 127,945.

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**Status**

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During 2008-9 the committee, which is established by the Board under clause 8.2 of the College constitution, met in accordance with its terms of reference. The Credential Committee develops policy and procedures to support, manage and grow the program.

The CPP Certificate (“The Credential”) is awarded to a registered nurse who has achieved peer recognition as a specialist mental health nurse. Application for recognition is voluntary, and is in addition to professional registration. Increasingly, the CPP program is recognized as the indicator of a specialist mental health nurse, who demonstrates a commitment to continuing professional development. At an individual level credentialing reinforces professional identity and practice aspirations.

Committee membership
The Committee currently has five members, four of whom are College members, and a fifth who is an external member. The College CEO and President are Ex-Officio members in line with the arrangements for key committees. 2008 saw the retirement from the Committee of both Mr Jon Chesterson who was the Chair, and Mr Jim Pearson. Both Jon and Jim had substantial background in development of the CPP from its inception, prior to the establishment of the committee and had initially been appointed for two year terms to provide for planned succession in the committee. Early 2009 also saw the departure of Mr Brian McMinn who resigned due to other commitments. The collective expertise and wisdom of these members was instrumental in establishing a firm foundation for the incoming committee. The current committee is as follows:

Greg Neilson (Chair)
Andrew Took
Christine Ashley (External)
Elizabeth Martin

Achievements
During 2008 a substantial body of work was undertaken with staff member Ms Marilyn Gendek, to review the arrangements around the peer review processes for more complex categories of application under the CPP program. In addition to this, improvements to documents that inform and support intending CPP applicants resulted in further streamlining of application processes. This work has continued into 2009 with continuing review of CPP procedures and the development of draft position statements surrounding the program, including the management of disclosures around professional conduct issues, made during the course of a credential application. The number of credentialed mental health nurses continues to grow. Members, mental health nurses and the community recognize the ‘Credential’ as a mark of professional specialty. At an individual level credentialing reinforces professional identity and practice aspirations.

Committee support
College members within the committee undertake their roles on a voluntary basis. As such, the support of college staff to the committee and to the peer reviewers is critical to ensuring responsive business continuity.

The imminent retirement of Ms Marilyn Gendeck makes it appropriate to acknowledge her substantial contribution. As a project officer focusing on the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program and the College’s Credential for Practice Program, Marilyn provided invaluable information and support to the committee. Marilyn ensured that the committee were well briefed with regard to both the day to day issues in administering the program and external health sector developments.

Future challenges
With the support of College CEO, the committee is presently working on developing strategy to review and enhance the CPP program.

Greg Neilson FACMHN, MHN (Chair)
It is with pleasure that I report on the activities of the Accreditation Committee for the period 2008-2009.

The Committee came into existence at the Annual conference in October 2007 and since then, members have been working towards establishing an endorsement process for the College.

2008-2009 Committee Members are as follows:

Dr Pat Barkway
Prof. Mike Hazelton (Chair)
Assoc. Prof. Margaret McAllister
Denise McGarry
Moira Maraun
Peta Marks (Deputy Chair)
Prof. Eimer Muir-Cochrane
Dr Jan Thompson

The Committee has appreciated the advice and support provided by the CEO Kim Ryan and, until her recent departure from the College, the CPP Project Officer Marilyn Gendek.

The Committee has meet on a monthly basis throughout 2008-2009, via teleconference, with a face-to-face meeting held during the Melbourne conference end 2008.

To date the business of the Committee has comprised the following:

- Development of a list of endorsement assessors
- Finalisation of endorsement procedures and documentation
- Assessment of a number of applications for endorsement
- Development of an Accreditation Committee Operational Plan – 2008-2010

To date the Committee has largely confined its activities to the consolidation of the endorsement process. Last year, I reported that the committee anticipated that an accreditation process would be developed within the next 12 months, however, the committee changed focus in that regard and instead has been working towards developing a funding proposal to develop a framework for mental health nursing education in Australia. This will form a comprehensive foundation document for an accreditation process.

As Chairperson, I would like to thank the Committee members for the energy, enthusiasm and expertise they have so generously provided. Thanks also to Kim Ryan and Marilyn Gendek for providing advice and support during the consolidation phase of the Committee’s work. The provision of an endorsement and accreditation service is an important strategic development for the ACMHN.

Professor Mike Hazelton
The ACMHN Mental Health Nursing Student Online Support (MHN SOS) project was live online from 28 May and assessed at the project’s identified end on 30 August 2009. The project aimed to provide Commonwealth Government Postgraduate Mental Health Nursing Scholarship recipients with online support in several forms. First, through a 1:1 mentoring program, second, via small group discussions (limited to students only) and third, via large group discussion which included mentors and nursing experts. There were 127 registrants to the MHN SOS community of practice discussion forum and over 1000 posts across almost 90 discussion topics.

While a limited number of mentors and mentees participated in the evaluation component of the project, there were some trends worth noting:

- A significant cohort of mentees benefited from the support of the project and felt it helped them remain engaged in their studies.
- Mentees who engaged quickly and early with their mentors found the program to be of enormous benefit; those who were hindered by time and technology found the program frustrating and never really felt they connected with their mentor.
- Mentors enjoyed the opportunity to share their skills, knowledge and experience with the mentees and felt that they were helping to bring on the next generation of nurses.
- Mentors and mentees were mostly of mature age. This reflects the demographics of the workforce.
- Difficulties using technology and finding mutually acceptable times to contact each other were identified as problems.
- Both mentors and mentees would have preferred to have more flexibility in relation to how they contacted each other i.e. via telephone (most commonly requested), email, video-link (skype) – particularly in the early stages when the relationship needed to be established.

The ACMHN believes that addressing the support needs of postgraduate Mental Health Nurse Scholarship recipients has the potential to benefit the workforce and the broader community, through:

- enhanced recruitment into the mental health nursing specialty
- improved knowledge and clinical competency i.e. those nurses currently working in mental health, but who are not mental health nurses;
- increased job satisfaction for mental health nurses who volunteer to participate in the program as a mentor or clinical expert, through acknowledgment of their expertise delivery of quality care and service to Australians who experience mental health issues, mental disorder and mental illness.

In particular, the ACMHN:

1. Established project protocols and guidelines for users (scholarship recipients as well as mental health nurse contributors)
2. Developed evaluation tools
3. Recruited scholarship recipients, mental health nurses/mentors and nursing experts to the program;
4. Advertised the program using the ACMHN website and newsletter, list-serves, relevant conferences; and directly to scholarship recipients via the RCNA, university faculties and other nursing organisations, for the duration of the project.
5. Provided support and information to the bank of mental health nurses as required, particularly through developing an online “mentor” training program with attached CPE points, large group discussion forums and small group discussion forums, both in ‘community of practice’ format.
6. Provided data regarding usage and participation in the scheme through progress reports as agreed; and
7. Established an appropriate online structure for the scheme.

Many thanks to the Reference Group for their support and advice:
Greg Clark
Madonna Cuskelly
Ann Garden
Brenda Happell
Nicholas Procter
And to the evaluation committee:
Andrew Cashin
Stephen Elsom
Brenda Happell

Many thanks of course, to the mental health nurses who gave of their time (and are still giving) to be mentors for the postgraduate mental health nursing students, and to the students who stuck with the technology and established a positive mentoring relationship.

Acknowledgement to the Department of Health & Ageing for funding such an innovative project.

Peta Marks - Project Manager
Mental Health Professionals Network (MHPN) has been established to promote the quality of consumer care by fostering local interdisciplinary networks of mental health care professionals in the primary care sector. Funded by the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA), the project involves 7 project partners:

Member organisations:
- The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
- Australian Psychological Society
- The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
- Australian College of Mental Health Nurses

Partner organisations:
- Australian Association of Social Workers
- OT Australia
- Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Project Overview and Aims
The MHPN project involves:
- Delivery of an initial networking workshop to interdisciplinary groups of mental health clinicians in local areas
- Support of the development of ongoing local networks

Specifically the objectives of the workshops are to:
- recognise the specific skills offered by other mental health professions in the local area
- identify local mental health referral pathways and resources
- identify opportunities for on-going professional development and mutual support

The workshops are targeted at primary mental health practitioners, namely; general practitioners, psychiatrists, psychologists, mental health nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and paediatricians.

Project Progress
Workshops began rolling out in February 2009 with over 200 completed around the country by the end of July. While workshops have been predominantly scheduled around the capital cities and metropolitan areas, MHPN is now shifting its focus to regional and rural areas. Additionally, MHPN recognise that structuring workshops around special interest groups will reinforce the likelihood of sustainability as an interdisciplinary network.

The representation of mental health nurses at MHPN workshops has been strong to date, with an average of one nurse registering to attend every workshop and approximately 10% of all workshops facilitated by mental health nurses. The enthusiasm of nurses in exploring collaborative care models within the primary care sector is helping to raise the profile of the nursing profession within local community.

MHPN is working to support participants from each workshop with subsequent meetings to further strengthen the development of sustainable, interdisciplinary collaboration in the local primary mental healthcare sector. The MHPN website is in the process of being enhanced to offer an online forum for communication within newly established groups and a central repository for useful resources.

Chris Gibbs
Chief Executive Officer
Mental Health Professionals Network
www.mhpn.org.au
2008-2009 has been a year of consolidation for the CLSIG especially in refining the processes for its operation. Terms of Reference were developed from the previously existing rules and were passed by the College Board 1st June 2009. The duties of the executive have also been revised. In addition, the CLSIG has adapted to the changes within the college including documentation of activities, reporting process, budget planning and participation in the Council of Branches quarterly meeting.

The 7th CLSIG conference was undertaken in conjunction with the SA Branch symposium in June 2009. Combining the energies of the SIG with those of the SA branch again led to a successful and diverse 2-day event. Scholarships were awarded to SIG members Blair Hobbs, Cathy Daniel, Leigh Peterson, Kim Hooper, Debra Papoulis, Shelley Saunders and Simone Harvey. The AGM was well attended and included energetic discussion regarding future activities. Ann McElroy and Jenni Bryant were re-elected into the positions of secretary and education officer respectively.

The email network has continued to be utilised as a means of sharing ideas and providing support to each other. Paul McNamara, who acted as moderator since the initiation of the network in 2002, has now stepped down from this role. Our thanks go to Paul for all the effort he has put into this.

The national survey of CL nurses undertaken on behalf of the CLSIG was published in 2 parts in the International Journal of Mental Health Nursing (volume 17, pages 180-196). This exploratory study of mental health consultation-liaison nursing in Australia described the demographics and role characteristics in part 1 and preparation, support and role satisfaction in part 2.

Julie Sharrock attended the International Society of Mental Health Nurses Conference in Greenville South Carolina in April 2009. This provided an opportunity to strengthen links with mental health nurses in the US especially the CL division of this group (ISPCLN). Julie presented on CL nursing in Australia speaking specifically about the development of the CLSIG, the results of the survey, the conferences and the email network.

There have been informal discussions with academics in relation to the development of postgraduate studies in CL nursing. While there is a need for such courses to be available, it presents a significant challenge in terms of course viability given small numbers of potential students. Any potential programs would need to be in conjunction with an established postgraduate mental health nursing program and be able to be provided on line.

In the coming year the CLSIG aims to improve communication with members through the development of the college website and management of membership. The annual conference will continue and planning is under way for 2010.

Thanks are extended to all those members who have assisted in activities during the year, in particular George Farquharson for convening the conference and the executive for their hard work.

**Finance Manager**
Carey Blaik 2008-2010

**Secretary**
Ann McElroy 2009-2011

**Education officer**
Jenni Bryant 2009-2011

Julie Sharrock 2008-2010
The 34th International ACMHN Conference was held at the Sebel, Albert Park, Melbourne in October 2008. Early engagement with the Hotel was influenced by the refurbishment that was underway. This caused some concern regarding the possibility of it not being completed by the time of the conference but those anxieties were unfounded and the venue was finished on time. Overall the facility was suitable for the conference needs but the division of one breakout room with partitions in order to reach another room reduced the audibility at times.

The local conference committee comprised: Sandy Dewhurst, Penny Herbert, Trish Martin, Julie Sharrock, Fiona Whitecross, Brad Wishart and Wendy Cross with input from Mick Blair (QLD, 2007), Kim Ryan and the conference organizer, AST Management.

The opening ceremony set the tone for the conference with Barking Mad offering excellent insights into mental illness and hope for the future. Patron Eloise Waslitz provided a moving speech regarding the involvement of the Pratt Foundation in mental health matters. Her parents Richard and Jeanne Pratt were present for the opening.

Keynote speakers included Professor Brenda Happell, Richie McClean and Paul Hammersley. All provided meaty and provocative papers that were well received and caused much ongoing discussion.

Trish Martin coordinated the technical program and the overall evaluation was very high. Papers reflected mental health nursing research, scholarly thought, clinical improvements and person-centered practice.

Apart from the scientific program, a concurrent program of other events was held during the conference. The Annual Oration and Investiture was held on the 8th with the Oration: “Control to creativity: Leadership optimism” was delivered by Barbara Keeble-Devlin. A number of book launches were held during tea and lunch breaks that reflect the scholarly outputs of mental health nurses. A highlight of the conference was the dinner that was held in the Private Members’ dining room at the iconic MCG. Music was provided by “Housequake” and everyone had a fabulous time.

At the dinner, the Eli Lilly Partnerships in Wellbeing awards were announced and there was a presentation by a consumer who had battled mental illness, obesity and stroke and had made a strong effort to combat the effects of the antipsychotic medications to maintain a healthy weight.

Each year the Stan Alchin Award is given to the best paper at the conference and is announced at the closing ceremony. The Stan Alchin was awarded to Deb Spurgeon & Martin Musco. In 2008 the Department of Human Services, Victoria also provided daily paper awards.

The budget for the conference was closely managed. Initial sponsorship was slow but gained momentum as the conference drew nearer. In the end the conference attracted 400 delegates, which was a significant achievement.

My sincere thanks to all who participated and for the excellent support from the conference team.

Professor Wendy Cross
Conference Convenor.
2008-2009 Financial Reports
Australian College Of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated
Financial Report For The Year Ended 30th June 2008

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ REPORT

The committee members of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated present their report for the financial year ended 30th June 2009.

Committee members
The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Peter Santangelo  President
Bernie Stefan-Rasmus  Treasurer
Christine Palmer
Brenda Happell  Appointed October 2008
Pat Bradley  Appointed October 2008
Stephen Carroll  Appointed October 2008
Sharon Olsson  Council of branches

Former committee members
Neil Spencer  Term finished October 2008
Kerin O’Brien  Term finished October 2008
Cecily Pollard  Term finished October 2008
Rebekah Ashby  Term finished October 2008
Andrew Cashin  Term finished October 2008

Principal activities
The principal activities of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated during the year were to represent the interests of mental health nurses and to participate in policy development concerning the profession, health care delivery, promotion of mental health and prevention of mental illness and disability. There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Operating results
The operating surplus/(deficit) for the financial year was $(17,703) (2008: $8,217).

Related party transactions
During the financial year no officer, firm of which an officer is a member or body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a material benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or body corporate and the Association.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee.

Peter Santangelo  Committee member
Bernie Stefan-Rasmus  Committee member

Dated: 14th September 2009
Canberra
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the members of Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2009, and the income statement, statement of recognised income and expenditure, cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee’s Responsibility for the Financial Report
The Committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee’s responsibilities also include designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor’s Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.
The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee’s financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other that that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Basis for Qualified Auditor’s Opinion**

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable for Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated to maintain an effective system of internal control over receipts until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to receipts was limited to amounts recorded.

**Qualified Auditor’s Opinion**

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report of Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated as at 30th June 2009 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

HARDWICKE’S
Chartered Accountants

Dated: 14th September 2009
Canberra

Robert Johnson, F.C.A.
Partner
MEMBERS STATEMENT

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee, the financial report comprising the Balance Sheet, Statement of Recognised Income and Expenditure, Income Statement, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated as at 30th June 2009 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Peter Santangelo  Bernie Stefan-Rasmus
Committee member  Committee member

Dated: 14th September 2009
Canberra
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOHA Grants</td>
<td>243,620</td>
<td>204,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants/sponsorship</td>
<td>120,390</td>
<td>267,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership income</td>
<td>451,269</td>
<td>434,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference income</td>
<td>438,313</td>
<td>139,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project management income</td>
<td>60,779</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credentialing fees</td>
<td>30,376</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>15,691</td>
<td>14,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>14,326</td>
<td>27,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry income</td>
<td>78,068</td>
<td>165,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td>1,452,832</td>
<td>1,253,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>24,289</td>
<td>22,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit &amp; accounting</td>
<td>5,650</td>
<td>5,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>6,399</td>
<td>5,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences</td>
<td>380,507</td>
<td>165,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy</td>
<td>47,272</td>
<td>148,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>7,516</td>
<td>4,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee benefits expense</td>
<td>428,022</td>
<td>333,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe benefits tax</td>
<td>1,164</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General office expenses</td>
<td>18,388</td>
<td>126,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant expenses</td>
<td>−</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorarium</td>
<td>−</td>
<td>9,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>12,588</td>
<td>2,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet/Website</td>
<td>4,580</td>
<td>9,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal/Communication</td>
<td>157,653</td>
<td>151,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal expenses</td>
<td>14,384</td>
<td>10,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management fees</td>
<td>51,503</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>37,813</td>
<td>10,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oration</td>
<td>−</td>
<td>1,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing, postage &amp; stationery</td>
<td>59,002</td>
<td>42,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>78,338</td>
<td>51,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>2,308</td>
<td>1,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>11,172</td>
<td>2,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
<td>2,124</td>
<td>−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; accommodation</td>
<td>117,961</td>
<td>120,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>1,470,535</td>
<td>1,245,108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Surplus/(deficit) before income tax | (17,703) | 8,217 |
| Income tax expense              | Nil      | Nil   |

| Surplus/(deficit) after income tax | (17,703) | 8,217 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.
# Balance Sheet

## Balance Sheet
**As at 30th June 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>748,962</td>
<td>450,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>112,977</td>
<td>138,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>241,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td></td>
<td>75,611</td>
<td>9,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>947,550</td>
<td>841,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16,330</td>
<td>9,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,330</td>
<td>9,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>963,880</td>
<td>850,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>262,303</td>
<td>133,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>262,303</td>
<td>133,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,744</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,744</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>267,047</td>
<td>136,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>696,833</td>
<td>714,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members’ Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated surplus</td>
<td></td>
<td>696,833</td>
<td>714,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Members’ Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>696,833</td>
<td>714,536</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Accumulated Surplus $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1st July 2007</td>
<td>706,319</td>
<td>706,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>8,217</td>
<td>8,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30th June 2008</td>
<td>714,536</td>
<td>714,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit</td>
<td>(17,703)</td>
<td>(17,703)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30th June 2009</td>
<td>696,833</td>
<td>696,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2009 $</th>
<th>2008 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts from customers</td>
<td>1,665,832</td>
<td>1,139,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to suppliers and employees</td>
<td>(1,603,250)</td>
<td>(1,211,975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>18,073</td>
<td>23,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</td>
<td>80,655</td>
<td>(48,770)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment for plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>(14,549)</td>
<td>(8,273)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds/(Investment) of term deposit funds</td>
<td>231,998</td>
<td>(14,466)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</td>
<td>217,449</td>
<td>(22,739)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</td>
<td>298,104</td>
<td>(71,509)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at the beginning of the year</td>
<td>450,858</td>
<td>522,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at the end of the year</td>
<td>7(a) 748,962</td>
<td>450,858</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985. The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The financial report covers Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated as an individual entity. Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated is an Association incorporated in South Australia under Associations Incorporation Act 1985.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period, unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a) Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of two months or less, and bank overdrafts.

b) Revenue and other income
Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers. Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point of delivery as this corresponds to the transfer of significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and the cessation of all involvement in those goods.

Grant revenue is recognised in the income statement when the Association obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Membership income is recognised on a receipts basis as it is voluntary in nature.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

c) Income tax
No provision for income tax has been made in the financial statements as the income tax status of the Association is uncertain.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009
NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT’D)

d) Property, plant & equipment
Property, plant & equipment are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The carrying amount of property, plant & equipment is reviewed annually by the committee members to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. The depreciation rates used for office furniture & equipment are 7.5-30%.

The assets’ residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date. Asset classes carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset’s carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement.

e) Impairment of assets
At each reporting date, the Association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset’s fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset’s carrying value. Any excess of the asset’s carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset’s ability to generate net cash inflows and when the Association would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an assets class, the Association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the class of assets belong.

f) Goods and services tax (GST)
Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown as inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.
g) Employee benefits
Provision is made for the Association’s liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance sheet date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from wages, salaries and annual leave which may be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the net present value. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based on historical data. Contributions are made by the Association to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

h) Unexpended grants
The Association receives grant monies to fund projects either for contracted periods of time or for specific projects irrespective of the period of time required to complete those projects. It is the policy of the Association to treat grant monies as unexpended grants in the balance sheet where the Association is contractually obliged to provide the services in a subsequent financial period to when the grant is received or in the case of specific project grants where the project has not been completed.

i) Comparative figures
Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.
## NOTE 4 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office furniture &amp; equipment – at cost</td>
<td>39,380</td>
<td>24,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>(23,050)</td>
<td>(15,534)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total property, plant &amp; equipment</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,330</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,297</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Movement in carrying amounts

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and end of the current financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office furniture &amp; equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1st July 2007</td>
<td>5,628</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>8,273</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
<td>(4,604)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at the beginning of the year</td>
<td>9,297</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>14,549</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation expense</td>
<td>(7,516)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carrying amount at the end of the year</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,330</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NOTE 5 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

### Current

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade payables</td>
<td>113,198</td>
<td>91,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accruals</td>
<td>24,922</td>
<td>11,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term employee benefits</td>
<td>38,644</td>
<td>29,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; income in advance</td>
<td>85,539</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>262,303</strong></td>
<td><strong>133,250</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NOTE 6 PROVISIONS

### Non-Current

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term employee benefits</td>
<td>4,744</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,744</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,883</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

NOTE 7 CASH FLOW INFORMATION

a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to items in the balance sheet as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank</td>
<td>748,662</td>
<td>450,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>748,962</td>
<td>450,858</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus/(deficit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>(17,703)</td>
<td>8,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-cash flows in surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>7,516</td>
<td>4,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in assets and liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(decrease) in payables</td>
<td>30,550</td>
<td>72,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(decrease) in accruals</td>
<td>12,964</td>
<td>11,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(decrease) in provisions</td>
<td>1,861</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(decrease) in grants &amp; income in advance</td>
<td>85,539</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/decrease in receivables</td>
<td>25,982</td>
<td>(138,959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/decrease in prepayments</td>
<td>(66,054)</td>
<td>(9,558)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows from operations</td>
<td>80,655</td>
<td>(48,770)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) The Association has no credit standby or financing facilities in place.
d) There were no non-cash financing or investing activities during the year.

NOTE 8 ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The principal place of business of the Association is:
Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated
ALIA House
1st Floor, 9-11 Napier Close
Deakin ACT 2600

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