

Happy New Year from Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association (ANNA)

The last year has been a busy one for ANNA, the first year with the new Australasian executive and what fun we have had. The Annual Conference in sunny Queensland drew increased numbers and interest from a variety of areas, with some fabulous presentations of great work being done by the neuroscience nurses of this region. Please see our website www.anna.asn.au for more information and upcoming information of the impending conference in Cairns, Queensland this year 2006.

Strategic Planning continues with the Australasian Executive allocating a day in March for the ongoing development of the association. This includes areas of recruitment and retention of members, an overhaul of the Association Journal, and some practical and exciting changes to the Association Website. With the ever-changing political climate in health in this country, the association must change to continue to meet the needs of its members.

This past year saw the finalisation of the Association competency standards, and the dissemination of the same to members. We have also planned this year to further establish and develop stronger links with educational and professional bodies to cement the standing of the association within Neuroscience domains.

We have seen a handing over of State delegate's teams, with some long standing and committed members handing over the reins to a new generation of Neuroscience nurses. Ongoing communication with State delegates and the format in which this is undertaken is being reviewed, to ensure our member's voices are heard and the challenges and issues facing neuroscience nurses across the region are addressed in an appropriate forum.

Our voice on the WFNN front has also strengthened with the continued appointment of Rochelle Firth as secretary and the new appointment of Vicki Evans as Vice President. Congratulations to both of these committed and dedicated ANNA and WFNN representatives.

2006 plans to be a big year for ANNA.

Cheers
Tracy Desborough
ANNA President