

Chairpersons Report 2009 **Annual General Meeting NZATS**

5 meetings of the NZATS Executive were held following the 2008 Annual General Meeting.

Members of the Executive also attended Regional meetings throughout New Zealand to disseminate information, meet members and to listen to concerns and issues. Once again I have found my attendance at Regional Meetings rewarding and a pleasure to attend.

There is a large list of people and organisations I would like to thank for their time and expertise over the past year. These include elected members of the executive and the representatives from the NZNC of ANZCA, Dr Malcolm Stuart and the NZSA, Dr Andrew Warmington.

National Assessors, examiners for the Registration Exams, markers for AUT papers, the Registration Committee, Work Place Assessors, Trade support and the many anaesthetic technicians and anaesthetists involved with block courses are all thanked for their contribution to our profession.

The Financial position of NZATS has been managed successfully with income received from registration, website advertising and overseas applications for membership. The Ministry of Health has indicated NZATS will financially support the implementation of regulation for anaesthetic technicians. This money will however be returned to NZATS once registration applications are processed.

NZNO Representation

In April the Perioperative College of the NZ Nurses Organisation formally withdraw their representation on the NZATS Executive. This withdrawal was fully supported by our executive. We do however acknowledge the time and expertise their representation has given to us since 2001.

Professional Development

In July the Professional Development Portfolio National Template was published on the NZATS website. The template has two sections, the first section being compulsory for all practitioners. The second section is for those who want to be involved with the development of Quality initiatives with their hospitals and professions.

HPCAA Regulation

Dr Malcolm Stuart and I met with the Ministry of Health representatives on the 24th July. We discussed the fastrack process for making recommendations to the Minister of Health in respect of those groups who have applied for statutory regulation, including anaesthetic technicians.

The regulatory authority options within New Zealand and overseas models that would best suit the profession of anaesthetic technicians were discussed. A further meeting with the Ministry is planned at the end of this month.

Extending Scope of Practice for Anaesthetic Technicians'

The consultation document seeking support from the membership has not been completed due to time constraints within my portfolio. You can be assured this document has now been given priority status by the executive.

Training Hospitals

24 hospitals are recognised as NZATS approved training hospitals. The number of hospitals has not altered since 2008. 120 trainees have current registration with NZATS.

Memorandum of understanding – NZATS and the NZSA

This document has been finalised. Thankyou to the membership who voted in support of the document.

Thankyou to members for completing membership applications denoting age, gender and ethnicity. This has been valuable for capturing overall data for future workforce planning. This data has been shared with DHBNZ.

Regular issues of the NZATS newsletter have been printed to provide an educational and information conduit for the membership. Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter content via the PR/Communications Executive member.

The NZATS website has undergoing a major revamp. Essentially the homepage and links has been simplified for easier navigation.

Compliance of the annual Training Hospital Survey was excellent. Only a few issues surrounding adherence to training regulations were raised from the feedback gathered.

I wish to thank you all for attending the annual general meeting.

The 2010 NZATS conference will be combined with the ASAPO (Australasian Society of Anaesthesia Paramedical Officers)Conference.

The conference is to be held in Christchurch 19th – 22nd November.