

7 December 2012

By Email to [Accreditationreview@aphra.gov.au](mailto:Accreditationreview@aphra.gov.au)

**Re: Review of the Accreditation Arrangements for the Nursing and Midwifery Professions**

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery [ANZ] (the Council) is the peak organisation that represents the Deans and Heads of the Schools of Nursing and Midwifery in universities that offer undergraduate and postgraduate programs in nursing and midwifery throughout Australia and New Zealand.

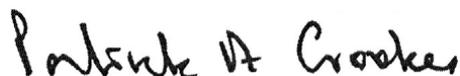
Many of the universities offering nursing and midwifery education have submitted individual responses to the review process, therefore it is not the intention of the Council to duplicate the feedback received from its member organisations regarding the specific issues canvassed in the consultation paper. However, as the peak body for nursing and midwifery education providers the Council wishes to take this opportunity to provide some general comments regarding accreditation arrangement for the nursing and midwifery professions.

As a newly established body under the Australian National Registration and Accreditation scheme, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council has had to achieve, in a short period of time, substantial process to effectively undertake accreditation of nursing and midwifery programs.

The Council wishes to make it clear that we strongly support the preliminary view of the National Board that the current accreditation arrangements with ANMAC as the independent authority continue beyond the period assigned by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council.

ANMAC has managed to establish effective and sustainable governance arrangements that are supported by an underpinning policy framework which allows it to fulfil its role independently and within the requirements of the legislative framework.

The Council understands that the ANMAC must manage its human and financial resource to achieve its objective in relation to its accreditation functions, however, our member organisations repeatedly report concerns with the fee structure utilised by the ANMAC and the onerous reporting requirements of education providers associated with submitting for accreditation. This is particularly unnecessary when some of the areas examined are measures considered by other quality review processes. There is room for ANMAC to review these requirements moving forward.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Patrick A Crookes'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Professor Patrick Crookes  
Chair  
CDNM (ANZ)