Annual Chairperson Report November 2019

Committee

1. Three new faces joined the committee this year. They are Lydia White- Rotorua, Marian O’Connor –Taranaki, Merrilee Williams – Dunedin. Marian became secretary which has been a steep learning curve for her and Merrilee has been learning about the website. Julia Anderson was appointed as our PNA and has been a valuable resource.

2. A Committee face to face meeting was held in February and August with teleconferences throughout the year. The committee has updated the rules and formulated policy for sub groups to join NZGNC. These being the IBD Nurses, Hepatitis nurses and Nurse Endoscopists. This is an exciting change moving forward as these specialist groups can now be assured of support from the college.

3. As chair I am on the committee of NZ Society of Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Governance Group NZ. With gastroenterology moving forward at a fast pace it is important that the college has a voice on these committees.

Education

1. The College is actively seeking to support nurses into specialist practice and has expert contacts for those who wish to progress their career in gastroenterology. There is education funding to encourage growth of gastroenterology knowledge and the grants have been increased to reflect increased costs

2. The College continues to support the Olympus Academy and GENCA fundamentals of Endoscope Reprocessing workshops throughout New Zealand. The College supports attendance by those who are in contact with flexible endoscopes. i.e. Nurses, SSD, HCA, Technicians

3. The annual Gastroenterology Charge Nurse Managers study day held in August has been rebranded – Endoscopy Leaders and Managers Study Day. This to encompass a broader range of attendees who have management responsibilities but not the title of charge nurse. This was well attended this year by 50 attendees from both private and public gastroenterology units.

4. The annual combined conference in November is a full academic programme for both nurses and consultants. The meeting funds international expert nurses in gastroenterology specialties to share knowledge and practice experience with the intent to improve patient care and keep New Zealand up to date with best practice and new ideas from larger centres. This is an opportunity for nurses to present papers and posters which attract prizes and encourage quality improvement and academic writing activities
Communication

1. We have a varied communication plan amongst members which includes the NZNO managed webpage, membership email list, college moderated Facebook group page to widen the information sharing and the Tube quarterly journal. The Tube is now delivered electronically

Membership

1. Membership continues to increase as persons join the specialty and become aware of our existence.

Karen Clarke
Chairperson NZGNC