



Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN) News page

Compiled by Julia Petty, COINN UK representative

In this edition of the Journal of Neonatal Nursing, we would like to take this opportunity to update you on the COINN Board members, who we are, where we are from and what we do. This 'News' piece also provides an overview of our Mission, core values and vision for global neonatal nursing.

Mission: To promote excellence in neonatal nursing and health outcomes for the infants and families we serve and to act as an international leader in development of professional standards of neonatal nursing (see <https://coinnurses.org/about/mission/>)

Core values

- Excellence in quality neonatal care, practice, and education
- Neonatal nursing as a global specialty
- Family-centered care
- Culturally sensitive care
- Respect for differences
- Compassion
- Healthy work environments
- Standards of Care, Practice, and Education

Vision

COINN represents global unity for neonatal nursing across all regions of the world (Fig. 1). The Council speaks with one strong voice to facilitate the growth of neonatal nursing and improve healthcare outcomes for



Fig. 1. World Regions.
(source: COINN website: <https://coinnurses.org/>).

our patients and families worldwide. The role of the Council is advocate, policy maker, quality evaluator, collaborator with healthcare, corporate, and lay groups, educator of health professionals, legislators, and lay public, and leader in global neonatal nursing. We appreciate and support cultural differences and work towards health promotion with the context of cultural norms and values. We value technology as a support of our work but not to the exclusion of the human touch. We believe in the blend of the art and science of nursing to promote neonatal healthcare outcomes. We believe in the holistic aspect of care to incorporate all aspects of health promotion and disease prevention. We support the development of neonatal nursing on a global level as a recognized specialty that is dedicated to infants and their families. To this end we foster collaboration with existing national neonatal or other nursing organizations that share similar values and beliefs. (Fig. 2)

Board of directors <https://coinnurses.org/about/board/>

Carole Kenner: CEO

Carole has over 35 years' neonatal/perinatal/paediatric experience. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and Indiana University (USA) with degrees in neonatal/perinatal nursing and nursing education. She has taught for 30 years, developed educational programs in the US and abroad. She is the author/editor of over 30 textbooks and a four-time winner of publishing awards including the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year. She received the Audrey Hepburn Award from Sigma Theta Tau for her international contributions to child welfare and the National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) Lifetime Achievement Award. Carole is the Dean of the School of Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science at The College of New Jersey (USA) at present. She was the founding President of COINN.



Karen Walker: President

Clinical Associate Professor Karen Walker is a Senior Research Fellow in Grace Centre for Newborn Care, the neonatal intensive care unit at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Australia and with the Cerebral Palsy Alliance International Multi-Disciplinary Prevention and Cure Team for Cerebral Palsy (IMPACT for CP). Karen is the current President of the Australian College of Neonatal Nurses (at time of article submission) and is passionate about mentoring and developing leadership and research skills in neonatal nurses. She took over as COINN president in May 2019 boardpresident@coinnurses.org



Sue Prullage (Rwanda): Secretary

Sue has been a nurse since 1981 and a neonatal/paediatric nurse since 1984. In 1994, she completed her neonatal nurse practitioner training and in 1996, became a paediatric nurse practitioner. In 2008, she and her husband volunteered at a district hospital in Rwanda and since then, has been involved in neonatal care there, in many capacities. Sue has been a professor at two different universities, a researcher and has worked as a neonatal and paediatric nurse practitioner. In 2015, she was a mentor to the board of the newly developed Rwanda Association of Neonatal Nurses.



Debbie O’Donoghue (New Zealand): Treasurer

Debbie is the Nurse Manager of the NICU at Christchurch Women’s Hospital New Zealand. She has been working within New Zealand in a senior neonatal nursing role for the past 23 years. Debbie’s background is within neonatal and paediatric nursing and midwifery both in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. She has a Master’s in Nursing (Health Sciences) which focused upon Father’s experiences of the neonatal journey. Debbie is a current committee member of the Nurse Managers committee (NZNO) and a member of the neonatal nurses College of Aotearoa (NNCA). Debbie’s areas of interest are improving neonatal nursing best practice, nursing workforce planning, and staff wellbeing.



Mary Blankenship Pointer: Chief financial officer

Mary is a native of Oklahoma City (USA) and has over 38 years of banking/finance. She is the recipient of numerous awards for her philanthropic activities and active community service that are combined with extensive experience in financing, business development, and banking. Her expertise in finance and fundraising are known nationally and internationally. She started with COINN in 2004. Her two main passions are healthcare and education.



Marina Boykova (Russia): Non-executive director

Marina received her nursing diploma from the School of Nursing, Leningrad, in 1989 and worked as a NICU nurse for 19 years at Children’s Hospital, Saint Petersburg, Russia. She received her Bachelor of Science (Nursing) and Master of Science (Health Promotion) degrees from the University of Liverpool (UK), and her doctorate in nursing (PhD) from the University of Oklahoma (USA). She also holds a Diploma in Higher Nursing Education from the University of Great Novgorod, Russia. Her passion is neonatal nursing, care for preterm infants (specifically, transition from hospital to home) and international collaboration. She also serves as a Project/Research Manager for COINN.



Agnes Van Den Hoogen (The Netherlands): Non-executive director

Agnes is a postdoctoral nurse scientist at the University Medical Centre of Utrecht (UMCU), and senior lecturer at Utrecht University, The Netherlands. She has been a neonatal intensive care nurse since 1985 and holds degrees from the Cardiff University (UK) and University of Utrecht. She has completed a Doctorate in Medicine: Infection, its prevention and Antibiotic resistance. She was President of the European Society for Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care (ESPNIC) from 2009 until 2013. Agnes is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (EFCNI), Vice Chair for the Education and Training Committee for Standards of Care for Newborn Health in Europe. Since 2018, she has chaired the European Society of Paediatric Research (ESPR) section for nursing and allied healthcare professionals.



Carin Maree (South Africa): Non-executive director

Carin is a senior lecturer at the Department of Nursing Science, University of Pretoria. Her qualifications include a PhD, Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education, MCur (Professional Nursing), Diploma in Neonatal Nursing Science, BA Cur (Education and Administration), Diploma in Child Nursing and BCur (General- Community and Psychiatric Nursing and Midwifery). Her experience is related to neonatal intensive care, quality improvement and accreditation of health-care settings and higher education. Her research interests include neonatal intensive care and families of neonatal patients. She also has an interest in inter-professional education, especially in curriculum development and whole brain learning.

**Julia Petty (United Kingdom): Non-executive director**

Julia Petty is a Senior Lecturer, Children's Nursing at University of Hertfordshire (UH) where she has worked since April 2013. Julia's role at UH comprises teaching and assessment for a variety of child health modules including leading a module focusing on care of the sick child and a generic nursing module in professional aspects of care. She has an extensive educational background in the neonatal specialty including a role of newborn life support instructor for the UK Resuscitation Council. Julia has a keen interest in the development of digital neonatal learning resources. She has completed a Doctorate in Education exploring how a storytelling approach can be used to understand the parent journey and the design of resources for learning in neonatal.

**Andre Ndayambaje (Rwanda): Non-executive director**

Andre holds a Master of Science in global health delivery from University of Global Health Equity (UGHE), with twelve years of professional experience in Maternal and Newborn clinical and leadership services. Currently, he serves as Health Services Coordinator at UGHE. Before this role, he worked as Maternal and Newborn Health Specialist for Eastern Province of Rwanda in a USAID-project, implemented in Rwanda by IntraHealth-International. He also spent eleven years at King Faisal Hospital as Senior Nurse-Midwife in Critical Care and Neonatal Intensive Care units. Andre has been a non-executive Director representing Africa on the COINN Board from 2015 and has served as the president of the Rwandan Association of Neonatal Nurses (RANN) from 2015-2018.

**Andréia Cascaes Cruz. (Brazil): Non-executive director**

Andrea received her neonatal nurse diploma from University of São Paulo (Brazil) in 2004. Currently, she is a post-doctoral Fellow in the Pediatric Nursing department within the School of Nursing at the Federal University of São Paulo (Brazil). She received her Master of Science and Doctor of Science (PhD) degrees from the School of Nursing of University of São Paulo. She is researcher in neonatal, pediatric and family nursing fields. Currently she holds the position of Professor, also within the Pediatric Nursing department at the Federal University of São Paulo (Brazil). Andrea is a member of an International Family Nursing Association (IFNA), is the first secretary of the Brazilian Society of Pediatric Nursing and a non-executive director of the COINN Board (2016-2019).

**Judy Hitchcock: Non-executive director**

Judy brings diverse neonatal experience gained from working most of her long career in tertiary, provincial and remote rural settings in New Zealand and Australia. These experiences have been shared regularly through reflective journaling in the UK Journal of Neonatal Nursing and in NNCA newsletters (Neonatal Nursing College Aotearoa); she has been a member of the UKJNN editorial committee for the past seven years. She regularly attends and presents at international and national conferences on topics that promote family engagement and has a particular interest in using informatics to teach parents and students. She is keen to see greater use of social media to engage with neonatal nurses around the world and currently promotes topical neonatal news feeds on behalf of COINN on Facebook and Twitter.

**Tracey Jones (United Kingdom): Non-executive director**

Tracey is a senior lecturer in neonatal nursing at The University of Manchester. She has been involved in neonatal education since 1999 when she started her first education post. Remaining clinical is important to Tracey and she continues to work as a clinical nurse in an honorary contract with a large NHS Trust. As part of her current role, Tracey is responsible for leading on all neonatal education for both undergraduate and post graduate students which includes the Enhancing Neonatal Nurse Practitioner course. Tracey is a neonatal life support (NLS) instructor and now works as part of the faculty teaching new NLS instructors. Tracey is chair of the COINN education committee.



Tanya Bishop: Non-executive director. T

Tanya is the Operations Manager of the NICU at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She graduated from Dalhousie University with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1999 and from McMaster University with her Masters of Health Management in 2018. Tanya has served on the board of directors for the Canadian Association of Neonatal Nurses (CANN) since 2012 and is currently in the role of President-Elect. Tanya has received the Excellence in Nursing Administration award from the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia (2015) and the John Lindsay Sr. IWK Humanitarian Award (2017). Tanya's interests are quality improvement, family integrated care and the optimization of neonatal outcomes.

**Marsha Campbell-Yeo: Non-executive director**

Dr. Marsha Campbell-Yeo, a neonatal nurse practitioner, is a Professor, Clinician Scientist and Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) funded New Investigator at the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health, Dalhousie University and IWK Health Centre. Her research lab, "Mechanisms, Outcomes, and Mobilization of maternally-Led Interventions for Newborn Care" (MOM-LINC), examines the effectiveness of maternally-led interventions to improve outcomes of at-risk infants related to stress, pain and neurodevelopment as well as enhancing parent engagement in care through innovative knowledge synthesis and e-Health technology. She has been recognized as one of Canada's top 150 nurses for her advocacy and leadership in advancing patient focused innovations to optimize quality healthcare.

**Wakako Eklund: Non-executive director**

Dr. Wakako Minamoto Eklund is a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) with the Pediatrix Medical Group of TN in Nashville, USA. She has been in the nursing profession for 28 years, initially in adult critical care and then neonatal intensive care. In addition to her clinical work in both level III and level II NICUs in middle Tennessee, she is a long-time educator of the S.T.A.B.L.E. Neonatal Resuscitation Programmes. She is also committed to educating and mentoring students through her academic appointments. Her research interests include exploring strategies to advance nursing practice globally, practice development and empowering the family by promoting collaborative research with them. Her mission is to engage families to optimize overall infant/family outcomes. She is a recent recipient of the COINN Neonatal Nurses Award 2019.

**Leilani (Kūpahu-Marino) Kaho'āno: Non-executive director**

Leilani (Kūpahu-Marino) Kaho'āno has been a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse for more than 20 years in California and Hawai'i. Her professional and Volunteer background includes a focus in Neonatal, Perinatal/Pediatrics Hospice & Palliative with other nursing fields; Community lecturer and Organizer of Perinatal/Hospice/Bereavement education; Student Nursing Mentor; Certified Instructor of STABLE and early childhood programs; Innovator of Hawaiian cultural nursing/health programs; Native Hawaiian Spiritual Leader for nursing and in-utero to elderly compassionate care.

**Dates for the diary**

- NNASA (Neonatal Nurses Association of Southern Africa) 9th Conference and 1st Neonatal Expo from the 3rd to 5th June 2020 at Wanderer's Club, Johannesburg.
- Watch out in the next edition for up and coming events including the Joint European Neonatal Societies (JENS) congress in Athens 2021 and the next COINN conference regional dates planned for 2021 in Denmark and Hawaii.

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"Advancing neonatal nursing care, education and research globally"

The Journal of Neonatal Nursing (JNN) published by Elsevier UK serves both the UK Neonatal Nurses Association (NNA) and COINN. We need to tell our story through this journal. Please consider submitting your article to the journal. If you would like to contribute to the News pages, contact Julia Petty, UK; NNA Executive Member / NNA Vice Chair; COINN Board: j.petty@herts.ac.uk

In addition, if you would like to write a longer article, refer to the author guidance via <https://www.elsevier.com/journals/journal-of-neonatal-nursing/1355-1841/guide-for-authors>

The open access News pages can be accessed online via <https://coinnurses.org/2019/05/29/coinn-news-pages/>

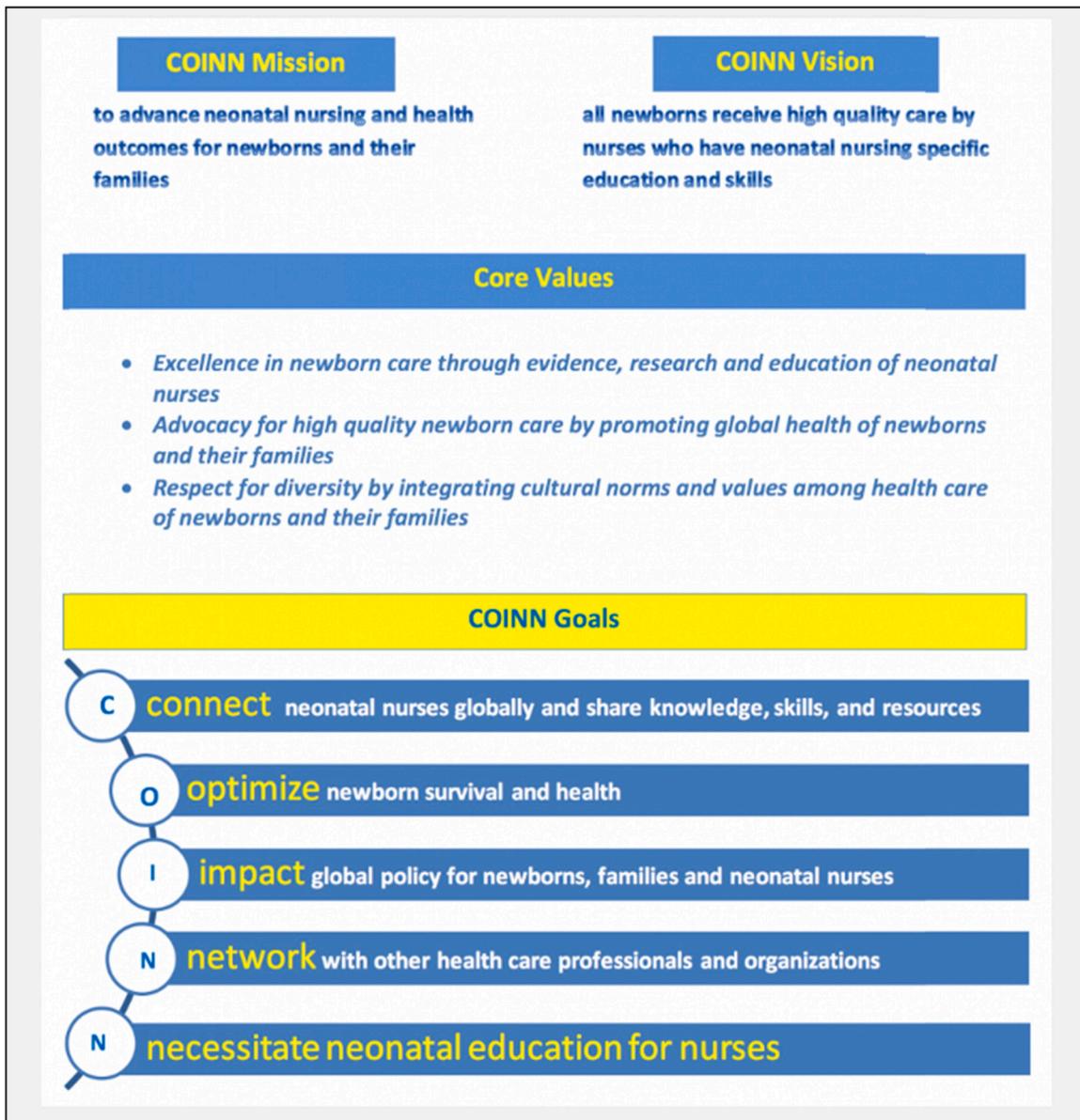


Fig. 2. COINN Mission, Vision and Values.