

2nd ANNUAL REPORT of the ARONAH

1 July 2011 – 1 July 2012

Issued by authority of the Board

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Chair's Report – 2011/12

It is with pleasure that I present to you the 2011/12 (2nd) Annual Report of the ARONAH.

The work of the board and subcommittees for the financial year 2011/12 has largely focussed on achieving key goals articulated in our strategic plan.

These have included

- Development of terms of reference for educational and practice standards, accreditation guidelines and policies for naturopathy and herbal medicine.
- Ratification and adoption of the ARONAH constitution – achieved at the 1st AGM held in Brisbane on the 9th of November 2011.
- Ratification and adoption of the ARONAH By Laws.
- The subcommittees to develop standards, codes, guidelines and requirements for naturopaths and herbalists to underpin national, uniform standards of education and practice for the professions of naturopathy and western herbal medicine – which is an ongoing project.

ARONAH continues to receive frequent correspondence from practitioners both domestic and international, registered and unregistered, wanting to register with ARONAH or be added to our mailing list, from students asking for advice regarding their current or future potential course of study, from the public wanting recommendation or referral to well qualified practitioners.

ARONAH received complaints 3 from the public regarding practitioners which were referred to their professional associations, state health care complaints commissions or police as appropriate.

ARONAH was present at the Southern Cross University Professional Day in 2011.

Our board and administrator have also been busy liaising with government and industry representatives on a number of issues surrounding the professions of naturopathy and Western herbal medicine. Formal meetings were held with Janelle Saffin MP (Federal Member for Page) on 15 November

2011, The Hon Thomas George (State Member for Lismore) on 29 November 2011. ARONAH also sent a copy of the published Lin Report to the Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council.

This year, the ARONAH board has upgraded to a professional teleconferencing facility.

ARONAH also sent a letter to every Federal, State and Territory Health Minister requesting that

- the report - ***The Practice and Regulatory Requirements of Naturopathy and Western Herbal Medicine (2005)*** be brought to the Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council for consideration
- A copy of the report regarding the **regulatory options for unregistered health professionals** also be considered by the AHMAC as a matter of urgent priority.
- a meeting be held with each health minister regarding the matter of registration of naturopaths and western herbalists.

A call for nominations for the election of 3 practitioner board positions in NSW, QLD and VIC and 3 community members was made in June of 2012. The board would like to thank our outgoing members Ms Nirala Jacobi (QLD), Ms Liza Oates (VIC), Dr Airdre Grant, Ms Michelle Rosenthal and Ms Kate Johnstone for their assistance with the board. We would have achieved nothing without their input.

I would like to thank the board, the subcommittee members and our administrator for their generous provision of the many hours of voluntary work required to keep ARONAH progressing. Again without them ARONAH ceases to function.

We are also grateful to the generous donors who have provided seed funding and infrastructure support to ARONAH as without their support, we would not exist. ARONAH received \$8617.92 from the Federation of Natural and Traditional Therapists (FNNT) as per the FNNT constitution on the winding up of their organisation.

Due to the extended amount of time required for the establishment of the register, the board has revised the commencement date but looks forward to a fully operational register in mid 2013.

Please note, balance sheets and cash flows are available on request.

Angela Doolan

Chair 2011/12

Values, Vision and Mission of the Board

Values

Transparency
Accountability
Efficiency
Efficacy
Fairness

Vision

*promoting the safest and highest quality of professional practice.

* is an informative, user friendly and responsive body for promoting public health and safety, which engenders the confidence of the public, the profession, government and industry.

*advocates appropriate regulatory reform for naturopathy and western herbal medicine

Mission

- To promote continuous improvement of professional practice, through education, policy development and outcome evaluation

- To ensure that the broad policy frameworks are aligned to enable the achievement of good professional practice and the protection of public health and safety

- To be actively engaged with the profession, public and government through communication, information exchange and dialogue

- To assure Board integrity through sound decision-making and effective processes

These were ratified on 2nd of May 2012.

Management and Structure

The Board

Practitioner Members

Chair –Angela Doolan (NSW and regional rep)

Naturopath and Western herbalist, past secretary of the ARONAH steering committee, currently full time law student at UNE.

Secretary June 2011 – November 2011 – Ms Nirala Jacobi (Qld)

Bastyr (US) trained and licensed naturopathic physician, mentor, and lecturer.

Ms Liza Oates (Vic) Liza is a naturopath, educator, writer, academic, researcher and broadcaster.

Dr Jason Hawrelak – (Tas)

Naturopath and Western herbalist at Gould’s Naturopathica, Hobart Tasmania, academic, lecturer, consultant, researcher.

Secretary – November 2011 – June 2012 Ms Debra Salleh – (SA)

Naturopath, nurse, lecturer, past secretary of the Australian Naturopathic Practitioners Association.

Ms Marion Volk – (WA)

Naturopath, lecturer, recent program manager Endeavour College of Natural Health, Perth.

Community Members

Treasurer - Ms Kate Johnstone

CEO of Embrace Holistic Services and holds a BA in International Relations (Politics).

Dr Airdre Grant

Academic in Teaching and Learning at Southern Cross University, researcher Nat Med Research Centre at Southern Cross University, former Director of Studies Nature Care College of Natural Therapies, Sydney.

Ms Michelle Rosenthal

Pharmacist, Branch Director of the Qld Pharmaceutical Society.

Administrator

Dr Jon Wardle

Naturopath, academic, author and lecturer at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Board meetings were held via teleconference on eight occasions in the financial year ending June 30, 2012.

- 13 July 2011
- 24 August 2011
- 12 October 2011
- 9 November 2011
- 18 January 2012
- 21 March 2012
- 2 May 2012
- 13 June 2012

The directors and administrator attended the meetings as follows

Practitioner NSW, Chair: Angela Doolan 7/7

Practitioner ACT/NT/Tas: Jason Hawrelak 4/7

Practitioner Qld: Nirala Jacobi 5/7

Practitioner SA: Debra Salleh 6/7

Practitioner WA: Marion Volk 7/7

Practitioner Vic: Liza Oates 5/7

Community: Kate Johnstone 5/7

Community: Airdre Grant 2/7

Community: Michelle Rosenthal 1/7

Administrator: Jon Wardle 5/7

Standards Committees

Currently two committees have been appointed to facilitate the development of education and practice standards for ARONAH and have been given their terms of reference, which can be found online.

Educational Standards Subcommittee

Jane Daley (Chair)(NSW)
Michelle Boyd (Vice-Chair)(Qld)
Ayesha Amos (Vic)
Tessa Finney-Brown (NT)
Dr Tini Gruner (NSW)
Dr Tom Harris (Qld)
Rebecca Hughes (Vic)
John Miller-Crispe (NSW)
Professor Stephen Myers (NSW)
Anita Peirantozzi (Qld)
Andre Semens (Vic)
Dawn Whitten (Tas)
Louise Zylan (Vic)

Practice Standards




Dr Christine Houghton (Chair)
Yulia Onsman (Vice-Chair) (Tas)
Dr Barry Draper (Vic)
Chinthani Gallaga (NSW)
Judy Jacka (Vic)
Randa Karson (Qld)
Vicki Mortimer (NSW)
Jane Nicholson (SA)
Robert Provino (NSW)
Amie Steel (Qld)
Hannah Richmond (ACT)

Strategic Plan 2010-2013

The strategic plan involves three key areas:

1. **Framework:** the governing framework that sets direction and guides decision making and achievement of objectives
2. **Management & Structure:** developing an organizational structure that enables the objectives to be achieved while reflecting our values of transparency, accountability and independence
3. **Community Engagement:** Developing processes for engaging with key stakeholders, building awareness of ARONAH's agenda and generating membership interest

Key

	Milestone Achieved
	Working towards Milestone
	Milestone Extended

Financial Year	2011-2012				2012-2013				
Financial Quarter	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT
FRAMEWORK									
Develop constitution and By Laws	X								
Ratify constitution and By Laws		X							
Develop terms of reference for educational standards and accreditation guidelines for naturopathic and herbal medicine education	X								
Ratify educational standards and accreditation guidelines for naturopathic and herbal medicine education				X					
Develop terms of reference for practice standards, guidelines and policies for naturopathy and herbal medicine	X								
Ratify practice standards, guidelines and policies for naturopathy and herbal medicine				X					
Admit members to the register					X				

Financial Year	2011-2012				2012-2013				2013
Financial Quarter	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT
MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE									
Appoint subcommittees to exercise board functions (including list members)	X								
Subcommittees to develop transitional grandparenting arrangements for naturopathy and herbal medicine				X					
Subcommittees to develop educational standards and accreditation guidelines for naturopathic and herbal medicine education				X					
Subcommittees to develop practice standards for				X					

Financial Year	2011-2012				2012-2013				
Financial Quarter	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT	NOV-JAN	FEB-APR	MAY-JULY	AUG-OCT
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT									
Develop a stakeholder management plan		X							
Develop a formal complaints referral and communication process				X					
Develop a marketing plan		X							
Develop Consultation Procedures		X							
Develop advocacy targets to promote improved standards in Naturopathy and Western Herbal Medicine			X						
Prepare submission for National registration process.		X							