
COOEE!

January 2020

www.nrhsn.org.au

In this issue

- Message from NRSHN (page 2)
- Goodbye 2019 (page 3)
- Meet the 2020 Executive Committee (page 6)



2020 seemed so far in the future, yet here we, onto the next decade!

Happy New Year!

The year has unfortunately started horrendously for so many Australians, with the bushfires causing great loss, trauma and suffering. Our thoughts are with the loved ones of those whom have lost their lives protecting our home. Their passing has sent shockwaves across the globe, signifying the severity of these fires. They put their lives on the line for us and we will never forget. We're also thankful to all the incredible volunteers on the front-line fighting these fires along with those supporting the fight and the victims of this atrocity. As so many of our members and their families are from rural areas, we sincerely hope you are all safe.

These events have signified more than ever the support required in rural areas to maintain a safe and healthy population. Our metropolitan areas are fortunate enough to be well protected from such disasters and have the resources to overcome them, similar to health in many ways. Rural areas will need ongoing support to create, rebuild, and maintain healthy communities and this applies to all rural areas, not just those affected by these fires. Click [here](#) for resources for people in bush fire-affected areas

The NRSHN provides a voice for students interested and committed to improving rural health across Australia and promotes rural health careers by encouraging students to take on rural health opportunities. This year, the NRHSN will continue our longstanding priority areas focused on clear rural health training pathways, promotion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, and nursing, midwifery and allied health student engagement. In addition, we would like to focus on sustainability of both the workforce and the environment.

There are some exciting things happening this year which we can't wait to share with you all including important position papers, advocacy work and a platform that will make NRHSN and Rural Health Clubs more accessible than ever. Sit tight and we'll update you in no time!

We're looking forward to this year and we hope you are too!

Sincerely, 2020 NRHSN Executive



THANK YOU 2019 NRHSN COMMITTEE!



PARTING WORDS FROM ASHLEY
AND DAVID

2019 has been a wonderful year for the NRHSN Executive Committee and our Rural Health Clubs. We have seen the creation of new clubs, innovative ideas for engaging students in rural health and have worked with the Department of Health and other stakeholders to improve access to health care for rural and remote Australians. I am very proud of all that we have achieved together!

In December, we handed over to the 2020 Committee. The ideas and plans for the coming year are very exciting and I can't wait to see what everyone achieves! As David, Bec and I head on to the next challenge of our internships as new doctors, we will be watching on

eagerly to see the continued advances the NRHSN makes in advocating for and supporting all health students around the country who are interested in rural health.

Finally thank you to everyone who has supported me this year, I have really appreciated it. To our stakeholders, NSW RDN as our administrator, the rest of the committee and most importantly the rural health clubs and their members you have all been absolutely wonderful to work with and I look forward to keeping in touch!

I hope everyone is able to enjoy some time off during the holiday period!

ASHLEY BROWN

2019 NRHSN Chair





DAVID TRENCH

2019 NRHSN Vice Chair

What a year 2019 has been for rural health! It's been an absolute pleasure working with some amazing organisations, inspirational Rural Health Clubs and an incredibly hard-working executive committee. Thank you to all those who have made the last two years a fun and rewarding experience.

For me, 2019 was a year of hard work but great reward; both on a professional and personal level. The NRHSN advocated strongly through national representative bodies as well as government, allowing us to work towards stronger support for rural students now and in to the future.

I'm particularly proud of some of our new health clubs popping up across the country over the last two years. It has been invigorating to see that our enthusiasm for rural health is shared at universities from Perth to Sydney and everywhere in between. I can't wait to see how these new clubs and students work towards promoting and improving rural health into the future!

2019 also marks the end of my student life. Internship awaits and the time has come to step away from the NRHSN. Thanks to all of you for being part of these last two years. It's a bitter sweet farewell...for now.

MEET THE 2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!



CHAIR

Harry grew up in Wagga Wagga in country NSW. He is currently a medical student studying at the University of Notre Dame in Sydney where he served as Co-Chair of his rural health club. Prior to this he was a Registered Nurse and worked for a year in Sydney.

His passion for rural health isn't limited to Australia, having volunteered in rural areas like Ukunda in Kenya, and Tetere in the Solomon Islands, where he helped manage a small hospital, delivering babies and running vaccination programs. He is looking forward to moving back to his hometown of Wagga to complete his medical studies.



VICE CHAIR

Having been born and raised in Brisbane, Krishn has travelled around Australia to many regional hubs and small towns, sparking his passion to promote and advocate for rural health. As the Vice Chair for 2020, he aims to continue to promote the benefits of working rural and to increase the opportunity and accessibility of rural work and education for future health professionals.

Krishn was the TROHPIQ IT and Communications Executive Officer and NRHSN Allied Health Officer in 2019. He looks forward to continuing his work with our stakeholders to grow the allied health sector of the NRHSN.



SECRETARY

Elodie grew up travelling between her family's large farming community of South Gippsland, Victoria and Melbourne, allowing her benefits of both worlds of rural and metropolitan Australia. Given these opportunities, she saw the inequities experienced, igniting her commitment to rural health.

Elodie has been Co-Chair of ROUNDS Rural Health Club and has lead various other student societies She has also worked with refugee and community groups teaching vital water safety around the unique Australian waterways. Elodie will be enjoying her final year of medical school in Ballarat, Victoria.



COMMUNITY & ADVOCACY OFFICER



Jocelyn grew up in Lithgow, NSW and spent time living in Albury, NSW while completing her Bachelor of Business. She is now a 4th year medical student at the University of Newcastle and completing her clinical years at Maitland Hospital.

Jocelyn has been the President and General Councillor for Medicine in her rural health club, BREAATHHE, and is a current NSW RDN Cadet. Jocelyn is passionate about rural health, advocating for students wanting to experience and learn in rural settings. She is looking forward to working with students and stakeholders in 2020.

ALLIED HEALTH OFFICER

Kate grew up in regional NSW and is currently completing her fourth year of a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) in Brisbane. Kate is passionate about rural health and helping to contribute to the future regional and remote workforce of Australia. Kate strives to ensure all future Australians have access to healthcare no matter their location.

Kate has been part of the allied health management committee of TROHPIQ and is taking on the role of Allied Health Co-Chair along with her NRHSN role. Kate feels extremely privileged to have the opportunity to advocate for the views of allied health students and help to ensure a promising career pathways for our future rural workforce.



INDIGENOUS HEALTH OFFICER

Rachel is a Woppaburra woman, born in Mt Isa in which she spent her formative years. Growing up between Brisbane and Mt Isa she developed a deep appreciation for the culture of rural communities whilst also becoming aware of the vast differences in health outcomes.

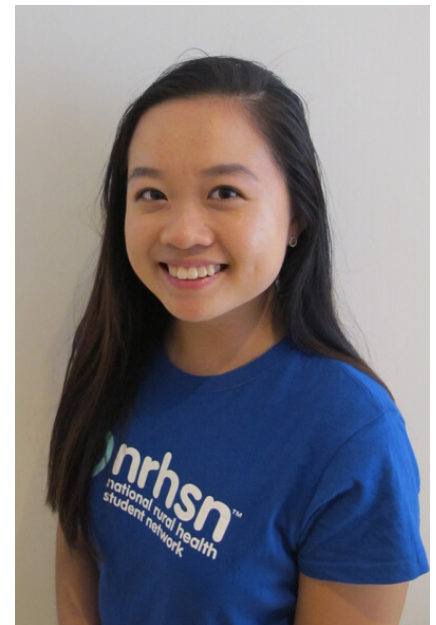
She has been heavily involved in her rural health club Hope4Health as Indigenous advocacy executive, and VP for rural and indigenous portfolios in 2020, and has had the fortunate opportunity to be involved in numerous rural immersion and rural placement programs throughout Australia. As a final year medical student at Griffith University Rachel looks forward to advocating for and supporting students in building a health workforce that rural Australian people deserve.



MEDICAL OFFICER

Having grown up in rural NSW and spent the other half of her life in the Big Smoke, Danica has experienced many joys and hardships of rural life and medicine. She is currently a medical student at the University of New South Wales and is excited to be finishing her degree in the beautiful Port Macquarie, one of UNSW's many rural campuses.

In the past four years, she has been a dedicated member of UNSW's rural health club, RAHMS, holding roles as President, Clinical Skills Director and Publicity Officer along with Social Media Officer for the Australian Medical Students Journal, and is passionate about the opportunity to take national rural advocacy to a new height.



NURSING & MIDWIFERY OFFICER



Fiona grew up on a cattle station in remote central Queensland where she developed an innate appreciation for rural community culture which ignited her passion of rural and remote health. Fiona is now studying her Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Sydney where she hopes to spark interest of rural health in other students who haven't yet considered rural experiences.

She is an active member of her rural health club, having held positions as Treasurer and Social Representative. She has worked on projects with the NSW Rural Doctors Network and completed rural placements in Broken Hill and Bathurst. Fiona is excited to represent health students on a national platform with a supportive and passionate team.



nrhsnTM
national rural health
student network

Be Social

 Find us on Facebook

 Follow us on Twitter

Contact NRHSN

PO Box 1111, Mascot NSW Australia

 info@nrhsn.org.au

 02 8337 8100

The NRHSN is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Health administered as a consortium by the Rural Workforce Agencies.

© 2018 National Rural Health Student Network