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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Response to editorial: Meeting the needs of rural and regional families: educating midwives

Dear Professor Daly

I write to you concerning the editorial published in Volume 19, Issue 4 (2012) of *Collegian*, pages 187–188, 'Meeting the needs of rural and regional families: Educating midwives'. This editorial was brought to the attention of the Board and Executive Team of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMAC) recently.

We are expressing our concern on several matters. Firstly, we consider that it would have been appropriate for the organisations cited in the article (i.e. ANMAC and Australian College of Midwives) to have had the opportunity to provide a response to what appear to be serious allegations. Normal practice would have been to print those responses in conjunction with the article.

The article implies that ANMAC has a position in relation to Education Providers being required to 'prepare 'shelf Bachelor of Midwifery degrees first before they are able to have dual degrees accredited'. I can assure you that this is not a position of ANMAC. Any midwifery degree, be it stand-alone program or part of a dual degree program is required to meet the Midwifery Accreditation Standards.

Should any further matters concerning ANMAC's policy and operations arise in the future we welcome the opportunity to provide verification and/or a response.

Yours sincerely

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