

Subject: Update on the Alliance
From: Fiona Davies <news@amansw.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 9 December 2019 10:32 AM
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Dear

In my announcement dated 9 October 2019 (*My Email*), I reported that the Alliance between AMA (NSW) and ASMOF (NSW) is being dissolved, and that Alliance membership of both organisations would be honoured to the end of this year. The Alliance is the subject of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AMA (NSW) and ASMOF (NSW).

ASMOF (NSW) has taken issue with statements made in My Email. You will also have seen that ASMOF (NSW) have issued their own statements to members about these matters including in their statement dated 10 October 2019 and the public announcement made on ASMOF's website on 11 October 2019.

ASMOF (NSW) commenced proceedings in the Federal Court in relation to AMA (NSW)'s termination of the MOU and My Email. ASMOF (NSW) and AMA (NSW) have reached an agreement resolving these proceedings.

I wish to clarify the following matters in My Email:

1. The Alliance as recorded in the MOU between ASMOF (NSW) and AMA (NSW) will end on 26 May 2020. Existing joint memberships will continue until that time.
2. If you have already received a membership renewal, please disregard it.
3. In My Email I said that "*ASMOF (NSW) does not have the best interests of doctors-in-training at heart.*" On behalf of AMA (NSW), I withdraw that statement and ask you to disregard it. Of course, I recognise that ASMOF (NSW), its officers and employees

have worked for the interests of DITs and have the best interest of DITs at heart. I did not intend to, nor do I, suggest that AMA (NSW) has a different view.

4. In My Email I said that "*ASMOF (NSW) has been dragging its heels on negotiations with AMA (NSW) on the continuation of the Alliance.*" On behalf of AMA (NSW), I withdraw that statement and ask you to disregard it. Both parties participated in negotiations for a new MOU over some time but, regrettably, the parties were unable to reach agreement.
5. I said in My Email that, by reason of delays in the negotiations, ASMOF (NSW) "*has jeopardised and delayed the Hospital Health Check, the DIT Awards and recruitment of next year's interns.*" On behalf of AMA (NSW), I withdraw those statements and ask you to disregard them.
6. In My Email I said that, "*In the seven years ASMOF (NSW) has been in a position to renegotiate the decades-old DIT Award, it has failed to produce results on that front*". On behalf of AMA (NSW), I withdraw that statement and ask you to disregard it. ASMOF (NSW) has negotiated with the Government to obtain wage increases in the Award each year during the operation of the Alliance. Each year, the Government has agreed to a wages increase of 2.5% per annum, which is the maximum allowable increase under the NSW Government's *New South Wales Public Sector Wages Policy 2011* (unless sufficient employee related cost savings have been achieved to fully offset the increased employee related costs). Both AMA (NSW) and ASMOF (NSW) also participated in negotiations to State Government policy regarding overtime, lengths of shift and breaks between shifts.
7. ASMOF (NSW) has expressed concern about my comment that "*AMA (NSW) can help DITs with most industrial issues*". As you all know, AMA (NSW) is not a union. AMA (NSW) is not a party to the Award and nor can it represent members in industrial proceedings and industrial disputes.

I hope that the above clarifies my announcement of 9 October 2019.

Both ASMOF (NSW) and AMA (NSW) regret that in the past few months we have spent so much time talking to you about ourselves. We are keen to get back to the work of supporting you and to building a stronger health system.

Fiona Davies
AMA (NSW) CEO