

**INTERIM AARN GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE  
2021-2024**

For an initial period of three years, AARN will be led by at least five “Network Leaders”. The work of these leaders will be supported by five “Consulting Conveners”. During this initial phase, these roles will be filled through a process of consultation and invitation. After the interim period of three years has passed, all roles will be democratically decided by network members.

**Network Leaders**

There will be a number of network leadership roles. Positions will be held for three years but are subject to change as the needs of the network begin to materialise. Six months before the end of the three-year term, expressions of interest for the network leadership roles will be sought. If more than one person expresses interest in a role, an election will be held through the AARN website, but voting is limited to those who are registered members of the network.

Network Leaders will work closely with at least one Convener to ensure the workload is shared and there are appropriate opportunities for development and mentorship within the network.

Initially, the Network Leader roles will include:

1. *Network Newsletter Editor*
  - a. Manage and distribute periodical newsletter.
2. *Network Social Media Editor*
  - a. Set up AARN Twitter and Facebook
  - b. Promote network events and recent publications and special issues
3. *Network Website/Communications Editor (Two Network Leaders will share this role)*
  - a. Manage website material
  - b. Liaise with conference conveners to secure video/photo footage
  - c. Maintain updated lists of events, calls for papers, conferences and grants
  - d. Review contributions from network members and upload where appropriate
  - e. Remove/Archive out of date content
  - f. Make contact with new members, reply to queries
  - g. Maintain contact with all associated networks and groups
  - h. Be a contact point for announcements and communicate this to the network website and communications leaders.
4. *Network Engagement Editor*
  - a. Look for ways to communicate the work happening within the network to policy makers, relevant organisations
  - b. Produce summaries of “impactful” work within the community that can feature on the website.

**Election of Network Leaders**

After the initial period of three years, expressions of interest for the network leaders’ roles will be sought. If there are multiple expressions of interest for a role, elections can be held through the AARN website, but voting is limited to those who are registered members of the network.

**Consulting Conveners**

The Consulting Conveners will be appointed for a period of three years and during the initial start-up phase, they will help orient the direction of AARN by:

1. Assisting in the initial appointment of network leaders to various roles within AARN;
2. Helping advertise those roles and solicit interest; and
3. Be paired with a Network Leader to provide advice and offer support where needed.

Five established academic volunteers will act as Consulting Conveners. Some decisions may require conveners to vote and the outcome of these decisions will be determined by a majority vote.

**Election of Consulting Conveners**

After an initial period of two years, expressions of interest will be sought for three conveners; with the remaining two positions being up for election the following year. This will ensure some continuity in this consulting role. If there are multiple expressions of interest for a role, elections can be held through the AARN website, but voting is limited to those who are registered members of the network.

**Tenure of Consulting Conveners**

All elected conveners will have a tenure of three years which can be renewed only once for an additional term of three years.

**Meetings and Decision-Making Structure**

Network Leaders and Consulting Conveners will meet as a group at least three times per year. Network Leaders and Consulting Conveners who have been paired to work together on one of the roles will be in regular contact to support decision making, workload management and to ensure opportunities for mentoring.