Professor Sue Kruske is a midwife with clinical, teaching and research experience in maternal, child and cross-cultural health particularly with remote Indigenous communities in Australia. Currently she is Regional Coordinator of Maternal and Child Health at the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health in South East Queensland and also works clinically at the Mater Mothers Hospital in Brisbane. Her primary areas of interest and research are in collaboration, supporting the health workforce in working more effectively with women and cross cultural child rearing practices. She is the immediate past president of the Australian College of Midwives.

Professor Pat Brodie has been engaged in Australian midwifery practice, management, policy and research for over 30 years. She is a past national President of the Australian College of Midwives and was awarded an AM in the Queen’s Birthday honors list for her services to midwifery. In association with colleagues from the University of Technology Sydney Pat played a key role in the development, implementation and ongoing support of a program to strengthen midwifery education in Papua New Guinea. She has extensive experience in mentoring and supporting midwives through the emotional challenges of midwifery practice in varied settings.

Professor Nicky Leap is an Adjunct Professor of Midwifery at the University of Technology, Sydney. She has long been a strong promoter of normal birth and has published widely on a range of topics including the development of midwifery models of care, communication, group antenatal care and the role of labour pain when promoting a positive experience of birth for women and their families. Nicky is co-author with Billie Hunter of the textbook: Supporting Women for Labour and Birth: A Thoughtful Guide and the recently re-published ‘The Midwife’s Tale: an oral history from handy woman to professional midwife’.

Professor Sue Kildea holds a clinical chair in midwifery and is a joint appointment between the Mater Health Services and Mater Research Institute Brisbane and the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Queensland. She is a registered nurse midwife with clinical, management, policy, education and research experience across both acute and primary health care settings. Sue is a strong collaborative researcher and many of her research projects aim to make a difference to the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. Together with a Senior Elder from Maningrida in Arnhem Land she was a joint recipient of the UTS Human Rights Award for contribution to advancing reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians (2004). Sue is a strong collaborative researcher, with expertise in health services research, epidemiology, qualitative and evaluation methods, participatory action research and randomised trials. Sue is an active clinician, is still working as a midwife and has provided technical expertise for the World Health and other Organisations in Indonesia, Viet Nam, Mongolia and Geneva.