



CNSA NEWS

Volume 14 Issue 1, February 2009

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FROM WHERE I SIT....A REPORT FROM THE CNSA CHAIR

Gabrielle Prest

2009 has opened with a bang and it certainly looks like interesting and challenging times ahead, but I would like to wish everyone a healthy and satisfying personal and professional year. You'll see our newsletter is chock full with brief reports about the work of the CNSA around the country. Please note closing dates for Grants, for Expressions of Interest for various CNSA activities and the Excellence Award.

I would particularly draw your attention to the work of our Education Committee in conjunction with our partners in the work of the EdCaN project. The foundation work being done has been enthusiastically embraced by the State and Territory Chief Nurses and by the Council of Deans of nursing schools and faculties. The important work of implementing the Framework and the materials developed for all levels of cancer nursing learning and ongoing development is now underway.

I would like to welcome the new chairs of the Regional Groups and the Special Interest Groups and the new Co-Editors of our Australian Journal of Cancer Nursing. The Executive was excited to hear about ideas for the Journal this year. Unfortunately our Victorian rep (**Maggie Stowers**) and our South Australian rep (**Carina Boehm**) on the National Executive Committee both need to

withdraw due to conflicting work commitments and so we are now calling for nominations for both a **Victorian** and a **South Australian member** to be co-opted to 'fill those seats'. Please email your resume and a supporting statement (as to why you would want to be involved and what you can bring to the NEC) to our Deputy Chair, catherinejohnson@newcastle.edu.au by 31 March. I'd like to sincerely thank both Maggie and Carina for their input during 2008.

During 2008 the CNSA Executive was approached to consider affiliation with the College of Nursing. The Executive supported this – there are benefits to this relationship, not least is that our name and logo is included in all their publications, but for CNSA members this means that nurses wishing to be members of a broader professional group will get access to cheaper membership rates. See www.nursing.edu.au

See you at Winter Congress in Newcastle in June!

ELECTRONIC MAILOUT – A reminder...

Please ensure your e-mail address remains up to date. If you wish to change the manner in which you receive your newsletter, please email us at: info@cnsa.org.au.

FOCUS ON CNSA NEC

Introducing Louise Nicholson, Tasmania

Last year we started a feature to familiarise you with some of our Executive Committee Members. Now one year into her term as representative for Tasmania, please meet Louise Nicholson, MN, MN (NP), Grad.Cert Nursing Science (Apheresis Nursing), Cert. Haematology and Haemopoietic Cell Transplantation, OCN (USA).

Louise has been an Oncology Nurse for 22 years and has worked in Melbourne, Sydney and New York. During this time she had roles in paediatric oncology, Oncology (chemotherapy) Home Liaison Nurse, Bone Marrow Transplant Coordinator, Nurse Unit Manager Radiation Oncology and her current position is Nurse Unit Manager of the Outpatient Oncology/Haematology Services of the Royal Hobart Hospital. This role incorporates the areas of Radiation Oncology, Medical Oncology Day Unit, Clinical Haematology, Outpatient Bone Marrow Transplant Program, Clinical Apheresis, Oncology Review Clinics and the Oncology Clinical Trials Unit.

Louise has been with CNSA since its inception and now on the National Executive Committee hopes to have an influence on the further development of oncology nursing in Australia.

GRANTS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Expressions of Interest to Join Grants and Awards Committee

The CNSA Grants and Awards Committee is seeking to increase its membership and we are therefore seeking expressions of interest from CNSA members who would like to further contribute to the society.

The work of the committee is sporadic throughout the year and includes:

- Determining allocation of funds for travel and research grants
- Evaluating grant applications (3 rounds per year)
- Advising the CNSA NEC on research matters
- Managing the CNSA Nursing Excellence Awards

This is an ideal opportunity for you to contribute to CNSA activities and to foster collegial relationships with other CNSA members. Research experience is not essential. New members are well supported by a 'buddy system', developed to mentor new members transitioning on to the committee.

Enquiries can be directed to:

Tish Lancaster,

Phone: 02 9845 5555 pager 08503

Email: Letitia.Lancaster@wsahs.nsw.gov.au

Expressions of interest should include:

A brief outline of cancer nursing experience and professional activities, length of CNSA membership along with a brief explanation of why you would like to join. Email by **30th March 2009** to:

Leanne Monterosso - Chair,

CNSA Grants and Awards Committee

Email: l.monterosso@curtin.edu.au

Grants and Awards update

Applications are invited from financial CNSA members for:

Travel Grants

- CNSA Travel Grants are available to attend a local, national or international conference - 2 grant rounds: closing dates **31st March and 31st August 2009**. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the Grants and Awards Committee
- Travel Grant for a 'new' cancer nurse available to nurses who have been working as a cancer nurse for less than 3 years to attend a local, national or international conference: closing dates **31st March**

and 31st August 2009. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the Grants and Awards Committee

- Ipsen Travel Awards (please see accompanying flyer circulated with this newsletter) to attend 2009 CNSA Winter Congress: closing date **31st March 2009**.

Research Grants

CNSA Research Grant to undertake research into any aspect of cancer nursing: closing date **30th June 2009**.

Applications

Any individual or team actively involved in an aspect of cancer nursing may apply for a grant within this program. The applicant (or the chief investigator in the case of a research team) must:

- have been a financial member of the CNSA for a minimum of 12 months; and
- be currently employed as a nurse and working in a cancer related field.

Applications for Research Grants to support Practice Development Projects are encouraged and welcome. Applicants requiring assistance in developing a research proposal should contact Leanne Monterosso, Chair CNSA Grants and Awards Committee.

Members who have not received a grant within the past 12 months are encouraged to apply for any of the above grants.

Applications must be submitted on the standard CNSA grant application form following the '**Guidelines for Applicants**'. Both are available by downloading from the CNSA website (www.cnsa.org.au).

A proposed budget must be submitted with the application. For travel grants the application must be supported by at least 1 quote for airfare/accommodation and (except for CNSA Winter Congress or COSA Annual Scientific Meeting) a copy of the conference brochure.

The original plus 3 copies of the grant application or research proposal (including all supporting documentation) must be submitted to the COSA office by cob on the due date. Faxed or emailed applications cannot be accepted. **Late applications and those that do not fulfil the above criteria or provide all documentation will not be accepted.** All applications must include the signed 'Declaration of Responsibilities' found in the Guidelines.

Enquiries:

Leanne Monterosso – Chair,

CNSA Grants and Awards Committee

Phone: 08 9266 1755 Email: l.monterosso@curtin.edu.au

CNSA NEC STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

The members of the National Executive Committee of the Cancer Nurses Society of Australia, met in February 2009 to advance some strategic directions for the CNSA in the next few years. The meeting also included nurses in some key national positions :

- CNSA Representative to the EdCaN Steering Committee
- Chair, CNSA Education Committee
- Ex-Chair, CNSA Grants & Awards Committee
- Co-Editors of the Australian Journal of Cancer Nursing
- Winter Congress Coordinator

The following have been identified as the key focus areas for the organisation and stakeholders for 2009 – 2011. :

- Fostering greater input into cancer control policies and broadening our relationships
- Facilitating cancer nurses' learning and development through research networks and educational services
- Effectively resource the work of the CNSA and prioritise areas of focus
- Growing the capacity of the CNSA at the regional & rural level
- Growing the member base to enable greater support and delivery of resources to cancer nurses
- Ensuring the financial viability and growth of the CNSA

We will share further detail about our plans and activities in the future.

REGIONAL GROUPS – CHAIRS FOR 2009

On behalf of the National Executive, and all CNSA members around Australia, we want to thank the outgoing Regional Group Chairs and Committees for their hard work at the local level ... the educational and networks benefits are enormous – so your efforts are appreciated by your colleagues. The current Regional Group contacts are below.

For further information about the CNSA Regional Group closest to you, contact a regional chair:

MELBOURNE

Ellen Heywood

ellen.heywood@southernhealth.org.au

Ph: 03 9928 8161

HUNTER, NSW

Catherine Johnson (interim)

Catherine.Johnson@newcastle.edu.au

Ph: 02 49211147

ADELAIDE

Sharon Reinbrecht

sharon.reinbrecht@health.sa.gov.au

Ph: 0403 602 694

PERTH

Sandy McKiernan

smckiernan@cancerwa.asn.au

Ph: 0413 999 383

BRISBANE

Lyn Clarke

lyn.clarke@charmhealth.com.au

Ph: 07 3512 5310

SYDNEY

Kerry Murphy

kerriann.murphy@sesiahs.health.gov.nsw.au

Ph: 0405 149 160

12TH CNSA WINTER CONGRESS

Heart Mind & Voice.....A Shared Vision

Civic Precinct - Newcastle NSW 18th-20th June 2009

Latest updates

Pre-Conference workshops

The workshops on radiotherapy, Occupational Stress/ Burnout and Central Venous Access Devices are expected to be booked out quickly so make sure you get in early.

Group Meetings

Many groups/committees are having meetings during the conference; this is a great opportunity to network with fellow delegates. Check the conference program or notice board at the conference for details.

Abstract Submission

The Organising Committee accepts submissions of abstracts of original contributions on any topic related to the Congress theme. If you wish to submit a presentation for consideration, please follow instructions on the website

www.cnsa.org.au/CNSA_Winter_conference.htm

Final Submission Date: 20 March 2009

Acceptance Notification: 17 April 2009

First Time presenter award

The First Time Presenter Program welcomes delegates new to presenting through an incentive awards program. Some new presenters in the program will receive awards for excelling in this area. See website for further details.

Gold Sponsor

It has been confirmed that our gold sponsor for Winter Congress this year is Ipsen. We thank them and all the companies in the health industry who are supporting CNSA to provide this wonderful educational event.

Debra Cook

BLOODSAFE – E-LEARNING WEBSITE

www.bloodsafelearning.com.au

This fantastic resource has been developed by South Australia Health to address the incidence of errors occurring in the administration of blood and blood products.

It is highly audiovisual and interactive with drop and drag menus. It has a pre test and a post test. The tests are case scenario based. Once completed successfully it generates a personalised certificate with accredited CPD points. A good learning tool for all health care professionals involved in all the processes of blood administration.

CALENDER REMINDERS - EVENTS

11th – 14th November 2009

AORTIC 2009 Conference

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

www.aortic2009.org

Registration opens: March 2009

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 20th March 2009

17th – 18th September 2009

Improving the Delivery of Services for Outpatients

Cairns, Queensland

www.changechampions.com.au

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30th April 2009

Facilitating the Living With Cancer Education Program

Cancer Council Victoria – 12 & 13 May, 19 & 20 August and 9 & 10 November 2009

The Living With Cancer Education Program is delivered by health professionals for people with cancer, their family and friends. The course covers the range of issues people face when living with cancer as well as group facilitation skills, adult learning techniques, and program promotion. The course is accredited with the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority. Please contact **Sue Hegarty, Cancer Services Coordinator** on 13 11 20 or email lwcep@cancervic.org.au

November 2009

COSA 36th ASM 17-19 November 2009

Gold Coast, Queensland

<http://www.cosa.org.au/ASMEvents/ASM2009.htm>

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEXT MEETING

19 MARCH 2009

Please raise any issues with state representative members or the national Chair via www.cnsa.org.au

CNSA EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

It continues to be a productive year for the Education Committee. While most of our activities have focused on the EdCaN project, we have attended to other issues on behalf of CNSA membership. These activities include:

The Australian College of Mental Health Nurses conducted a survey of the topics nurses and midwives would like education on. The Committee brainstormed a list of topics that cancer nurses might find useful in their practice, which were forwarded to the National Executive Committee.

We provided feedback to the NEC on the ISNCC document "Nursing and the World Cancer Declaration". The Committee applauded the involvement in the initiative. If members wish to read the declaration, it is located at www.uicc.org/templates/uicc/pdf/wcd2008/english.pdf

On Friday 31st October 2008 the Education Committee attended an all day workshop with the EdCaN project team. Activities included:

- An update on the development of the EdCaN education resources and outcomes of the workshop held by Edcan on the previous day with national cancer nursing education providers
- Discussion regarding future plans for EdCaN, including implementation, dissemination and sustainability, focussing on stakeholder support
- Discussion around the proposed Workforce Audit and Specialist Options (Credentialing) Paper developed by EdCaN
- Presentation of the report from the external EdCaN project evaluators
- Presentation and discussion of the document "Principles of Competency Assessment within the Framework for National Professional Development in Cancer Nursing". The Committee wrote a statement of endorsement for the document, which has been forwarded to the NEC for consideration.

The Committee offered its congratulations to the EdCaN project leaders and staff for the quality of materials produced and the level of consultation demonstrated, which we believe will ensure the best outcomes for the initiative. Issues that arose during the meeting for the Education Committee, who represent the concerns of the CNSA membership with respect to cancer nursing education, include:

- The Committees role in the future with respect to the endorsement of the implementation plan for EdCaN
- The potential use of Committee members as champions for EdCaN
- The Committees role in the ongoing EdCaN Framework review, once the project is complete. This is planned for 5 years post-introduction.
- The Committees role in the evaluation of the maintenance and updating of the EdCaN education resources and competency assessment tools
- Does the Committee have a role in setting the standards of cancer nursing education standards nationally? Should CNSA form the hub of establishing continuing professional education standards and assessment outcomes?

Alexandra McCarthy - Chair

EDCAN NEWS

The final phase of the 4-year EdCaN project is approaching. EdCaN resources are currently being completed so they can be trialled in the first semester of

2009. The 11 case studies that form the basis of the education package are a suite of multimedia resources. The case studies contain learning activities, links to other resources and a series of supporting video clips. The learning resources developed by EdCaN for all nurses in Australia will be uploaded to the Cancer Learning website. www.cancerlearning.gov.au

Nicole King, a CNSA member, has been working hard to develop competency assessment tools that may be used in conjunction with the education resources. One of the first outcomes of this has been the drafting of the "Principles underpinning Competency Assessment". This document is available on the EdCaN website for review and comment at www.edcan.org.

The EdCaN team has also started the process of pilot testing the resources as part of the implementation strategy. Nurse educators/lecturers and key organisational executive sponsors from across Australia attended the EdCaN Pilot Implementation Forum. The participants worked in groups to identify opportunities for how they might use the resources within their own environments. They went on to outline their ideas for a number of pilot implementation projects. EdCaN will provide support to a number of projects to explore the use of the EdCaN suite of resources within a variety of learning environments before their general release next year. They will also provide the basis for a set of exemplars to be made available on the www.cancerlearning.gov.au website.

The project team at EdCaN will be working hard over the coming months to tie all the pieces together to bring all Australian nurses an amazing suite of resources to enable nurses across the country to develop their cancer nursing practice.

Linda Barrett - Chair, EdCaN

REPORT ON THE 2ND AUSTRALIAN LUNG CANCER CONFERENCE 2008

The 2nd Australian Lung Cancer Conference was held in Surfers Paradise from the 20th-24th of August inclusive. The program included a dedicated Nurses Workshop which included a variety of speakers from different disciplines. This provided me with a more in-depth overview of the management of lung cancer. The speakers were able to discuss and explain their topics concisely and I came away with a much better understanding of concepts such as lung cancer pathology and the use of imaging.

The conference was arranged into international presenters, Australian speakers and oral abstract presenters. The five keynote speakers from the USA and Japan were particularly noteworthy.

One of the greatest benefits I gained from attending this conference was my ability to further develop my

professional network with other oncology nurses. It provided the opportunity to meet a variety of nurses interested in lung cancer and discuss professional issues with them. One outcome includes a plan to spend time with lung cancer nurses in Melbourne and Perth to see how their oncology centres may operate differently to the one in which I work.

Another benefit, was my gaining a better understanding of the latest changes to lung cancer management. I was able to obtain a clearer understanding of the diagnostic tools available for oncologists and lung cancer patients. The information I sourced, accompanied by the professional networking, has allowed me to further develop my knowledge about the management of lung cancer and has provided me with the opportunity to develop this further.

One of the most exciting outcomes from this conference is the development of a professional group for lung cancer nurses. This group would allow for discussion, professional comment, sharing of ideas and the dissemination of information for nurses interested in lung cancer. It was decided the group would include nurses from New Zealand and, if there was any interest, from Asia-Pacific. Whilst this is in the early phases of development, it was exciting progress for lung cancer nurses.

Louisa Robinson: Acting Clinical Nurse Educator – Oncology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS UPDATE

From the Outgoing Chair of the Breast SIG

Dear SIG members,

As the year end fast approaches, so too does my role as Chair, and my involvement in the SIG. As many of you know I have taken on a new role in cancer nursing, however it is with mixed feelings that I write my last newsletter as Chair of our group.

Since we established our steering committee in 2004, it has been an amazing journey, professionally and personally. You have made my job incredibly easy – demonstrating high levels of support and commitment to advancing our speciality.

I would like to thank outgoing committee members Andrea Cannon (VIC), Alison Swajcer (NSW), and congratulate incoming committee members commencing Jan 2009. The new SIG Management Committee will consist of the following members:

- Elisabeth Black (NSW) – Chair
- Sarah Pratt (VIC) - Deputy Chair
- Tracy Cosgrove (NSW)
- Marion Strong (QLD)

- Judy Iasiello (SA)
- Sally Timmins (rural VIC)

I am confident the new committee will provide ongoing leadership and support and that the Breast SIG will continue to grow, and provide peer support and expertise to breast cancer related work and projects on a national level. Your enthusiasm and the work you do will continue to be recognised within CNSA.

Personal thanks to members of the NEC, particularly Gabrielle Prest and SIG Coordinators, Meg Rogers and Glennys Stallan for their guidance and encouragement.

With respect to our seroma management document, the final draft has been accepted and endorsed by the CNSA NEC and is currently being formatted to meet CNSA standards, so look out for this in the near future via the CNSA website.

Also, don't forget about the upcoming National BCN Conference, where the CNSA SIG will have a display to provide information to interested nurses.

Finally, I would like to wish all SIG members a New Year filled with good health and ongoing success in your careers.

Yours in cancer nursing,

Tina Griffiths, Chair (until 31/12/08) Breast SIG

CNSA Breast SIG - All change!

Such kind words Tina. The CNSA NEC passes our sincere thanks to you and the outgoing members of the Breast SIG. You have done a magnificent job and your achievements are noted with appreciation. As Tina mentions a recent accomplishment is the creation of the CNSA Position Statement for the Principles for nursing practice in the management of seroma post surgery for breast cancer. The resource is in the final stages of publication and will shortly be launched at the National Breast Care Nurse Conference (see calendar events) and on line at www.cnsa.org.au

We would also like to welcome all our new BCN SIG committee members.

For further information on how to get involved with the BCN SIG please contact:

Elisabeth Black, Chair Breast SIG

elisabeth.black@bci.org.au

CNSA Radiation Oncology SIG – New Year, New Chair

We must also take this opportunity to pass our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing Chair of the Radiation Oncology Nurse Special Interest Group – Mary Duffy. Mary has done a superb job during her term and we thank her for her hard

work and dedication. It is also with much pleasure that we welcome the incoming Chair, Mei Krishnasamy, we are sure you will continue the good work with the ongoing support of the existing RON SIG committee members.

Anyone wishing to find out more information or how to join the Radiation Oncology Nurse Special Interest Group should contact:

Mei Krishnasamy, Chair RON SIG

E-mail: meinir.krishnasamy@petermac.org

CNSA NEWS 2009

News articles and items of interest are welcome. Please forward in MS Word format, (pictures as JPEG) to diane.hamers@outofsite.com.au

Submission deadline for the next newsletter Fri 17th April 2009

13TH CNSA WINTER CONGRESS - CALL FOR EOI TO HOST 2010

CNSA Winter Congress has emerged as the leading cancer nursing event in Australia over the past 12 years. 2009 will see Newcastle, NSW host delegates at Winter Congress. Previously Winter Congress has been hosted by Sydney, Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane and Hobart and **NOW** is **YOUR** opportunity to be a part of Winter Congress 2010! This is a great opportunity to be involved in your society and host Winter Congress in your part of Australia. Regional Groups and/or states are encouraged to register interest in hosting this event. Expressions of interest should be endorsed by the regional group chair or state representative for the state or territory in which the host city is located.

A selection of the host city will be made by the CNSA Winter Congress Committee. Considerations include the following:

- Ability of the host city to host an educationally and financially successful congress for between 300 and 500 delegates.
- The locations of previous congress meetings. The host city is rotated to ensure that each major city has the opportunity to host the Winter Congress on a regular basis.

Please forward your expression of interest (including 5 copies of your documentation) by **Friday 10th April 2009** to:

Maryanne Hargraves, CNSA Congress Team Leader

PO Box 1879, Milton QLD 4064

Or email: mhargraves@hoca.com.au

CNSA 'AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE'

* Leadership *Research *Clinical Practice *Education

Essential Criteria

Nominations may be made by any member of CNSA, self nominations are accepted. A nomination may be for contributions to cancer nursing and cancer control in the past or present. Eligible persons will be residents of Australia and members of CNSA

Applications should include:

- the nominee's curriculum vitae (two pages only)
- an outline of the nominees work in the area of cancer nursing and cancer control (one page only in bullet point format)
- a summary of accomplishments (half page only in bullet point format)
- letters of reference from two people, with contact details, addressing any/all of these questions:

*How has this nominee contributed to cancer nursing and cancer control? And/or

*What specific outcomes can you describe this nominee as achieving in cancer nursing and cancer control? And/or

*Why should this nominee be selected for the CNSA Award for Excellence? (One page only for any/all in bullet point format)

Nominations and supporting documentation should be sent by **28 February 2009** to

Chair, CNSA Grants and Awards Committee

GPO Box 4708,

Sydney NSW 2001

CNSA Executive Contact Details

<p>Gabrielle Prest (Chair) Director, Professional Services The College of Nursing Phone: 0437 627 100 gprest@nursing.edu.au</p>	<p>Meg Plaster (WA) Paediatric and Adolescent Cancer Nurse Coordinator WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network Phone: 0400 021 874 or Office: 08 9346 4856 megan.plaster@health.wa.gov.au</p>
<p>Catherine Johnson (NSW, Treasurer) Newcastle Mater Misericordiae Hospital Phone: 02 4921 1147 (Tues, Wed, Thurs) catherine.johnson@newcastle.edu.au</p>	<p>Glennys Stellan (QLD, Special Interest & Regional Groups) Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Phone: 07 3636 5391 glennys_stellan@health.qld.gov.au</p>
<p>Position vacant (VIC) Nominations for a coopted position will be accepted before 31 March to: catherine.johnson@newcastle.edu.au</p>	<p>Julie Clowry (ACT) Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma Nurse Care Coordinator The Canberra Hospital Phone: 02 6244 3895 Julie.clowry@act.gov.au</p>
<p>Louise Nicholson (TAS) Nurse Unit Manager Outpatient Oncology Services Royal Hobart Hospital Phone: 03 6222 8238 louise.nicholson@dhhs.tas.gov.au</p>	<p>Letitia Lancaster (ISNCC Representative) Westmead Hospital Phone: 02 9845 5555 Letitia_Lancaster@wsahs.nsw.gov.au</p>
<p>Position vacant (SA) Nominations for a coopted position will be accepted before 31 March to: catherine.johnson@newcastle.edu.au</p>	<p>Grants and Awards Committee info@cnsa.org.au</p>
<p>Regional Groups info@cnsa.org.au</p>	<p>Special Interest Groups info@cnsa.org.au</p>

