



CNSA NEWS

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

So much happens to people in such a short period of time. Since I last sat to write the Chair's report for the CNSA Newsletter, peoples' lives have been altered, for some irrevocably, by floods, cyclone and earthquake. I have been struck by the immediacy with which people react and deliver – giving of their time, money, skills and incredible empathy. I know that many of you as CNSA members have given in diverse ways to help people affected by these recent devastating events. I also realise that many of you have been directly affected. I wish you all a healthy and safe remainder of the year.

As I start another 2 year term as Chair of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the CNSA, I'd like to thank the members of the current Executive for supporting my nomination to stand for another two years and to thank each of them for their support and incredible hard work over the past 12 months. On the 25 and 26th February, the CNSA NEC met in Sydney for a two-day, face to face, strategic planning meeting. Our main task was to set out an achievable plan for 2011-2013, to ensure we build revenue and membership and that the CNSA continues to grow its national profile as Australia's peak professional body for nurses working with patients affected by cancer. The NEC has revised the current Strategic Plan and, once finalised, it

will be uploaded onto the CNSA Website. If you have any questions about the Strategic Plan or have suggestions for ways in which you think you can work with the NEC to achieve our strategic directions, please contact your state NEC representative or contact me directly. I will also be talking to the Plan at Winter Congress, where there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions for ways in which we can achieve our vision for the CNSA.

2010 saw considerable activity across many of CNSA's core functions. The Chairs of the Regional Groups and their team members have, once again, contributed an incredible amount of energy to promote the CNSA and engage nurses across the country in our vision and mission. Many thanks to Catherine Johnston, Gillian Blanchard, Sharon Reinbrecht, Samantha Gibson and Kerrie Murphy for their valued contributions as Regional Chairs. There continues to be a steady growth in the membership of the breast and radiation oncology specialist interest groups (SIGs), enabling nation-wide collaborative relationships and opportunities for shared learning and practice development. You can read more below about the activities of the groups below. Many thanks to Pauline Rose and Elisabeth Black for their energy and commitment to these important CNSA functions. Plans are underway to formalise the new gynae-oncology SIG lead by Pauline Tanner and Judy Eddy from WA. Pauline and Judy have already established an impressive network of members and have worked very hard to establish a CNSA gynae-oncology SIG. If you are interested in finding out more or joining this vibrant SIG, please contact Pauline on: Pauline.Tanner@health.wa.gov.au or Judy on: Judith.Eddy@health.qld.gov.au. The SIG will be formally launched at Winter Congress in Sydney in July.

If you have ideas for a new CNSA SIG, log on to the website for information about how you go about establishing a SIG, what the requirements are and how you can get support. With Winter Congress almost upon us it's an ideal time to think about calling for expressions of interest from other CNSA members who may be interested in starting up or joining a SIG. If you would like time set aside during the Winter Congress meeting for your SIG, or to explore interest in setting up a new SIG, contact Ellen Barlow as Chair of the local organising committee for the 2012 CNSA Winter Congress in Sydney

[Ellen.Barlow@SESIAHS.HEALTH.NSW.GOV.AU].

2010 saw a remarkable rise in the number of survey invitations sent out to CNSA members. This is a sign of the regard with which the membership is held nationally and a recognition that the delivery of quality cancer care is dependent on the involvement of nurses to shape and inform service delivery. The NEC will continue to monitor

and evaluate (through the CNSA Research Committee, Chaired by Professor Leanne Monterosso) all requests for access to CNSA members to participate in local or national research. Members of CNSA from across Australia have also been involved in responding to calls to review and input into several national policy documents. Members of the Education Committee, chaired by Nicole King have recently responded to phase 1 of the CoNNO National Nurse Credentialing Framework document. The Education Committee worked to deliver expert and excellent feedback over a very tight timeframe. CNSA also has representation on many other leading cancer initiatives including our representation at the CoNNO table; as part of the COSA Executive and the COSA Annual Scientific Meeting planning committee. This year CNSA's representative on the COSA ASM Committee is Sandy McKiernan, WA NEC representative. Many more of you, I know, are involved in a diverse range of activities so please read on and find out more about the many ways the CNSA contributes to the development of cancer care across Australia.

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the CNSA 2011 Membership Survey. Despite some technical glitches we got there in the end! Thank you for your patience. The survey data is now being analysed and will be considered as the NEC finalises the new Strategic Plan. I look forward to sharing the results with you.

I am delighted to announce that the CNSA has signed up for Global Network Membership (GNM) of the Union International for Cancer Control (UICC). As member of the ISNCC the CNSA is entitled to free Global Network membership for one year. To learn more about the work of the UICC log on to: <http://www.uicc.org/>

And finally, Winter Congress is almost upon us again. A call for abstracts has recently been sent out and I encourage as many of you as possible to submit abstracts for this year's Congress. The **deadline for abstracts** has now been extended to the **21st March**, and so if you haven't already submitted an abstract, there's still plenty of time to do so. I look forward to another great Winter Congress and to seeing many of you at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre on July 21-23rd. Log on to the CNSA or congress website for more information:

<http://cnsa.org.au/>

<http://www.dconferences.com.au/cnsa2011>

With best regards

Mei

Dr. Mei Krishnasamy
Chair, Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
A Shared Voice ... A Shared Vision

Membership Renewal Fees

Please remember to renew your CNSA/COSA membership for 2011. You can renew online until the end of March at <https://www.cosa.org.au/membership/join-form.html>.

WHAT'S OCCURRING? – THE ROUNDUP

Winter Congress 2011

14th Winter Congress Update – Sydney, NSW 21st – 23rd of July, 2011 “Navigating the Complexities of Cancer Care”

This year, Winter Congress will be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, which is superbly located on the waterfront in Sydney's most popular visitor precinct, Darling Harbour. The Congress will be held in the Parkside Auditorium, with the exhibition area situated just outside the Parkside Auditorium, in the Parkside Foyer. For the delegate's convenience, an Internet café will also be situated within the exhibition area.

As well as a comprehensive program of Plenary and Concurrent sessions exploring the Congress theme 'Navigating the Complexities of Cancer Care', four Pre-Congress workshops are being planned. These workshops will cover areas including such topics as professional growth and mentoring, and an Eviq workshop incorporating new treatment advances and treatment devices. Abstract submission deadline is the 21st of March, with the final program to be confirmed by the 1st of May.

Some of the highlights of this year's program will be our International and National speakers, Dr Marilyn Haas and Dr Mei Krishnasamy. Our International key note speaker, Marilyn Haas PhD ANP is a Nurse Practitioner from North Carolina in the United States. Marilyn is passionate about clinical practice, and although focusing for some years on radiation oncology, her expertise is predominantly in symptom management across all cancer treatment modalities.

Joining Dr Haas is Dr Mei Krishnasamy, Mei is well known to us all in the CNSA as our National Chair, and is currently the Director of Cancer Nursing Practice and Research at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, in Melbourne. She is involved in a number of studies focusing on the assessment and management of symptoms related to cancer and its treatment and the development and evaluation of nurse-led services.

Social events will include the Welcome reception on Thursday evening, which will be held within the Bayside Terrace situated on level 2 of the Convention Centre.

On Friday night, the Congress Dinner will be held at Dockside, Cockle Bay Darling Harbour. Dockside is one of Sydney's most popular function venues with a reputation for culinary excellence and exceptional service. On Saturday late afternoon, following the day's sessions, we will join to say farewell with a glass of wine at the Farewell Function.

The Local Organising Committee is looking forward to welcoming its supporters and delegates to Sydney.

Ellen Barlow – Local Organising Committee

Regional Groups

CNSA Hunter Regional Group

Hunter CNSA Regional Group ended the year with an AGM, educational evening and festive flair. We were very lucky to have had 2 speakers who provided us with information on male sexuality and cancer and managing incontinence.

Both presentations facilitated much discussion around how as health care professionals we manage such a sensitive topic. Discussions continued long into the evening.

Plans have been outlined for 4 educational meetings during 2011 and an active recruitment drive. We look forward to sharing our year with everyone and wish everyone a safe and happy 2011.

Gillian Blanchard – Hunter Regional Group

Adelaide Regional Group

The end of 2010 brought to a close the terms of three executive committee members for South Australia. Many thanks to Allan Hayward for his commitment to the role of treasurer and to Karen Hall for keeping the local newsletter moving ahead and updating members of local professional development opportunities and relevant key points of interest. As the outgoing chair, I would like to thank all members of the group for their friendship, support and hard work at the local level in facilitating educational and networking activities for cancer nurses.

We have had a very successful outcome to the nominations held late last year for committee member positions. We welcome Liz Zwart and Amanda Robertson. Liz, who will be well known to many of you, has returned into the role of treasurer. Liz is a Clinical Lecturer with the University of Adelaide and has previously represented SA on the National Executive Committee. Amanda is a Nurse Practitioner working at Flinders Medical Centre with a special interest in survivorship. Both Liz and Amanda bring

exciting perspectives to the group, especially for the interests of advanced practice nurses.

The group met in early December to brain storm ideas for a productive 2011. To start the year on an exciting note, in February Dr Rohit Joshi and Dr Raghu Gowder will be presenting on their diverse experiences in the delivery of multicultural cancer care. This session will discuss the patterns of care and outcomes for Aboriginal patients with cancer having radiotherapy in a tertiary hospital and the setting up of an Oncology Unit in India. Next on the agenda we have a session in April from the ANF, discussing the development of personal professional portfolios, a topic currently on the minds of many nurses.

For any information on becoming a member of the Adelaide Regional group, please contact: sharon.reinbreth@health.sa.gov.au

Sharon Reinbreth – Chair, Adelaide Regional Group

Sydney Regional Group

Welcome to 2011! I don't have too much to report this month as our first meeting will be held on 9th February. On the agenda for the first meeting is to appoint the committee positions for the year and to welcome our new committee members.

The 2011 Sydney CNSA (SCNSA) committee will be:

- Tracy Cosgrove, Peta Samios, Alison Hession and Lorraine Cobbing: Royal North Shore hospital
- Sandra Turley: Broken Hill base hospital
- Josephine Beven: Broken Hill hospital
- Natalie Bryne: Westmead hospital
- Keith Cox: Royal Prince Alfred hospital
- Ellen Barlow: Royal hospital for Women
- Louisa Robinson, Lisa King and Bthe Ivimey: Prince of Wales hospital

Please remember if you have an idea for the SCNSA regional group or for topics for the education session don't hesitate to let us know. For all enquires please contact any member of the SCNSA group.

This will be my final report as regional chair of the SCNSA. I would just like to take a moment to thank all of the wonderful people that I have worked with during my time on the SCNSA committee. It has been a fantastic period of learning, humour and new friendships. I wish the 2011 committee all the best for the upcoming year.

Kerry Murphy – Chair, Sydney Regional Group

Melbourne Regional Group

Melbourne regional group Executive headed to Horsham in October. Although attendance was low, those who participated agreed that the information provided was very useful. Topics included; Rural Integrated Services (RICCS), neutropenia, genetic risk in breast and ovarian cancer, supportive care and Ed Can, followed by an afternoon workshop on symptom management. The overall feedback from the day was very positive, participants found the topics relevant and informative and were extremely appreciative of the Executive planning the day in their region.

Our end of year function was enjoyed by all who attended. The speaker, Anna Boltong is currently undertaking her PH. D. in dietetics. Her research is examining the "taste experiences of patients pre and post chemotherapy". Those who attended were provided with samples of liquid containing a variety of flavours and asked to complete a questionnaire after tasting the samples. The aim of the exercise was to demonstrate that we all experience taste in various ways which uses all of our senses. The session generated lots of fun, discussion and debate.

The Executive are already well into planning topics and speakers for 2011. Topics will include; managing toxicities in relation to targeted therapies, pregnancy and chemotherapy, the role of both the rural and metropolitan nurse practitioner within cancer care, and we hope to head to south Gippsland for another rural education day. 2011 will be an exciting year for both our rural and metropolitan members and we welcome any new members to join us.

Catherine Johnston– Chair, Melbourne Regional Group

Perth Regional Group

2011 is an exciting year for CNSA Perth and Environs. For the first time, CNSA Perth and Environs will make available a travel grant to a Western Australian CNSA member to facilitate attendance at Winter Congress. We have also expanded the educational offerings this year in response to survey results from participants last year. Six educational events will be hosted this year, three of which will be open seminars and three of which will be for members only.

Our first open educational event kicks off in March focusing on skin cancers and melanoma. This seminar will be presented as a half-day breakfast meeting on the 19th of March. Our dinner meeting is scheduled for July 4 and will review the toxicities of treatment and the nursing role in toxicity and symptom management. We will finish our educational year on October 22nd with a half-day luncheon meeting reviewing the ever evolving artillery of pharmacotherapeutics in cancer treatment.

Our member only events include 2 clinical practice development workshops on May 17th and 18th dedicated to Vascular Access Devices – Choices and Challenges. These full day workshops will be facilitated by Joy Blacka the access device "guru" who holds a Masters in Clinical Practice and who has extensive experience in all things related to access devices. These workshops will be limited to 25 members each day, and early registration will be essential to secure a place.

Following an overwhelming amount of requests to run a sexual health seminar after the sexual health session that Dr Garthe Merriman presented at our November meeting in 2010, the Perth and Environs committee of CNSA have been able to secure Dr Merriman to facilitate a full day member only event on September 15 that will explore Cancer and Sexual Health; supports, resources and tips.

CNSA Perth and Environs is proud to be able to continue to offer financial assistance to rural members attending CNSA educational seminars in Perth. We are also pleased to be able to provide some small support to course participants attending cancer related educational courses run through some of Perth's major teaching hospitals.

Samantha Gibson– Chair, Perth Regional Group

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RONSIG

Greetings from the Radiation Oncology Nursing Special Interest Group (RONSIG) of CNSA. Over the past few months the RONSIG membership list has been in the process of being updated, and there has been activity around increasing interest in the RONSIG through various State and National groups of radiation oncology nurses.

Various topics such as the use of axillary deodorant and the use of vaginal dilators has highlighted gaps in our knowledge and evidence base. Members have begun research activities into these issues.

The big news for RONSIG for 2011 is the invitation, which has been accepted, by Marilyn Haas RN PhD in the USA to participate in CNSA Winter Congress 2011 as the keynote international speaker. Marilyn is passionate about radiation oncology, but has extended her sphere of expertise to include symptom management across all modalities, plus palliative and hospice care. Marilyn was a past Coordinator of the Rad-Sig at ONS and was kind enough to send a message to our RONSIG that was published in the August newsletter. If Marilyn is able to attend we will invite her to the RONSIG meeting in Sydney. So we hope to see lots of new members at the meeting.

I recently emailed the RONSIG membership, so if you did not receive an email or would like to join our group, please contact me on Pauline.Rose@health.qld.gov.au. Quite a few emails have returned as undeliverable, so please let me know if your email has changed, or if you are no longer part of RONSIG. The email group can be an extremely useful source of information and peer support.

Pauline Rose – RONSIG

Breast Cancer Specialist Interest Group

2010 saw the CNSA Breast Cancer Interest Group members continue to make a significant professional contribution to many national and state working parties and research projects, ensuring standards of care, advocating for patients and carers and advancing the role of specialist breast cancer nurses in our communities.

Projects have included many National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre working parties developing guidelines for clinical practice, demonstration projects, models of care and advisory networks. Topics covered have included breast reconstruction, surgery for breast cancer, hyperfractionated radiotherapy, models of shared care for follow up, management of the axilla, the use of bisphosphonates in breast cancer treatment and rural health issues.

Despite members all being extremely busy in their own roles, the group has expressed an interest in working together to look at clinical practice guidelines for specialist breast cancer nurses to align with the specialist breast competency standards as well as examine issues around caseload management. It is hoped that these special projects will continue to progress in 2011.

The Breast SIG aims to keep members as up to date as possible with issues relating to clinical practice and regularly disseminates recently published reports and journal articles and shares information between members such as locally produced newsletters. The Breast SIG is keen to continue to grow and expand its membership, if any CNSA members are interested in joining the Breast SIG, please email: elisabeth.black@bci.org.au

Elisabeth Black – Breast Cancer

NBOCC

Starting a conversation about secondary cancer

The National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre (NBOCC) has launched a new resource to assist women living with secondary breast and ovarian cancer.

Finding the words: Starting a conversation when your cancer has progressed encourages women with secondary breast and ovarian cancer to start discussions about quality of life, treatment, emotional and social support with their families and healthcare team.

The new resource is designed to assist women in the transition from curative to palliative care by encouraging and empowering them to communicate effectively with the people who can support them to maintain quality of life for longer. It focuses on the nature of the conversations that occur after a diagnosis of secondary cancer, and aims to assist with the language that facilitates these discussions.

New research from NBOCC has found that approximately 7,000 women alive today have been diagnosed with secondary breast cancer. NBOCC has updated two key resources for these women and the men who support them.

Guide for women with secondary breast cancer provides information to support women with secondary breast cancer in understanding their diagnosis and options for treatment and care based on the latest available evidence.

When the woman you love has secondary breast cancer provides advice and information to men supporting a woman they love who has been diagnosed with secondary breast cancer on how to deal with their own needs and feelings. Men share their own experiences, and health professionals offer guidance on a range of emotional, physical and practical issues.

New resource to support breast cancer awareness workshops for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

NBOCC has also released a new resource for health organisations and individual health professionals working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to promote breast cancer awareness through locally-run **Well Women Workshops**.

The *Well Women Workshop Community Education Resource* includes advice for the *Well Women Workshop* organiser, presenter notes, resources to organise and run the workshop, including NBOCC's *Looking after your breasts – what every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander woman should know* DVD, and other health promotion materials.

The resource has been developed in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, and Indigenous women, to ensure the information is delivered in a culturally-appropriate manner.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience poorer rates of breast cancer survival than the Australian female population as a whole, with breast cancer currently the most common cancer diagnosed in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

The *Well Women Workshops* promote breast awareness and the importance of early detection in surviving breast cancer, encouraging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to be proactive about breast health.

NBOCC has also announced 12 grants to assist in running *Well Women Workshops* in local communities, with funding provided to organisations to promote breast cancer awareness for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

For more information on *Well Women Workshops*, visit www.nbocc.org.au/indigenous.

Helping women in rural areas stay in touch

NBOCC is pleased to announce the successful roll-out of a new and innovative program, **Stay in Touch**, to connect families when travelling away from home is required for radiotherapy treatment for breast cancer.

Using online video communication technology via Skype, *Stay in Touch* provides laptops with access to mobile broadband to connect women face-to-face with their families when their breast cancer treatment requires them to be away for extended periods of time.

The program provides a means of overcoming the emotional impact of separation from their family by connecting them to home when they travel to receive radiotherapy. Families can share daily life, with women able to see and speak to their loved ones back home, bringing them closer during this difficult time.

Stay in Touch is a project of the *Supporting Women in Rural Areas Diagnosed with Breast Cancer Program*, funded by the Australian Government and delivered by NBOCC. The project is currently available in 13 sites around the country. For information about *Stay in Touch*, including a list of participating treatment centres, visit www.nbocc.org.au/sit.

Visit www.nbocc.org.au for information on NBOCC activities and to download and order resources.

Erin Sharp–NBOCC

COSA and Cancer Institute NSW

Development of Evidence Based Guidelines for Nutritional Management of Patients with Head & Neck Cancer

Report to CNSA NEC – Megan Nutt

January 2011

- Teresa Brown, Project Dietitian, will have met with her supervisors at the end of 2010 to determine the recommendation statements for each clinical question based on the body of evidence that has been collated through the literature review.
- This draft will be circulated to the dietitian committee to assign NHMRC grades to each statement and the content was to be confirmed through a teleconference in mid December.
- The multidisciplinary committee will review this final draft and discuss at a teleconference planned for January 25th 2011.
- The finalised draft will then be circulated for wider stakeholder review.

Megan Nutt–Nurse Care Coordinator
Head and Neck Cancer
CNSA NEC Representative for ACT /
CNSA Treasurer

**THE WIDER CNSA COMMUNITY –
WHAT'S THE LATEST?**

CNSA Education Committee

The CNSA/ EdCaN Survey was distributed to members throughout November and December. Survey results are currently being collated and analysed. The Education Committee will meet with the EdCaN team in February to establish priorities for future development and maintenance of the resource. Thank you to all those who completed the survey.

Nicole King - Chair, Education Committee

GRANTS AND AWARDS UPDATE

Applications are invited from financial CNSA members for the following grants and awards. Please see accompanying flyer circulated with this newsletter.

TRAVEL GRANTS

- **CNSA Travel Grants (two rounds)** are available to attend a local, national or international conference. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the CNSA Education Committee.

Closing dates: 31st March and 31st August 2011.

- **CNSA 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. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the CNSA Education Committee.

Closing dates: 31st March and 31st August 2011.

- **Ipsen Travel Awards Ipsen Travel Awards** are available to provide funding for two CNSA members to attend the 2011 CNSA Winter Congress.

Closing date: 31st March 2011.

Enquiries:

Nicole King

Chair, CNSA Education Committee

Email: Nicole.King@petermac.org

PAM RENOUF MEMORIAL STUDY AWARDS

Category A: Career development study award – cancer nurses

- These awards are available to any cancer nurse who wishes to undertake post graduate study through a Graduate or Graduate Diploma or Masters program that increases his or her skills in cancer nursing.

Category B: Career development study award – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and A&TSI General Nurses

- These awards are available to any A&TSI health worker or general nurse to support travel, accommodation, tuition or conference registration fees and incidental costs for professional development including accredited study or relevant conference participation.

Category C: Study awards in recognition of long service

- These long service study awards are available to a cancer nurse to recognise seven or more years of full time or equivalent service in cancer care and treatment. The award is available to support significant professional development opportunities such as: a) travel, accommodation and living expenses required to support a study tour in Australia or overseas and b) a Post Graduate Study Program that will enhance the applicant's ability to contribute to the Australian community in any way.

Closing date for applications in all categories: 30th June 2011.

Enquiries:

Nicole King

Chair, CNSA Education Committee

Email: Nicole.King@petermac.org

RESEARCH GRANTS

CNSA Research Grants are available to CNSA members to undertake research into any aspect of cancer nursing.

Closing date: 30th June 2011.

Enquiries:

Leanne Monterosso

Chair, CNSA Research Committee

Email: leanne.monterosso@nd.edu.au

Applications

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

Late applications and those that do not fulfil the grant criteria or provide all documentation will not be accepted.

CNSA 'AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE'

* Leadership *Research *Clinical Practice *Education

Submissions are now being accepted for nominations for this prestigious biennial award.

Essential Criteria

Nominations made by any member of CNSA on behalf of another member or 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 April 15th, 2011 in hard copy to the

Chair, CNSA NEC

GPO Box 4708,

Sydney NSW 2001

Or electronically to:

meinir.krishnasamy@petermac.org

CNSA NEWS 2010

News articles and items of interest are welcome. Submission deadline for the next newsletter is **Friday 9th April 2011**. Forward in MS Word format, (photos as JPEG) to liesabruhn@bigpond.com

ELECTRONIC MAILOUT – A reminder...

Please ensure your e-mail address remains up to date. If you wish to update your details, please email us at: info@cnsa.org.au

WATCH THIS SPACE!

Call for Nominations for Education Committee

The role of the CNSA Education Committee is to advise and support the CNSA National Executive Committee (NEC) on matters relating to cancer nursing education and development, and recognition of the specialist cancer nurse role. Specific functions include:

- Providing expert knowledge, advice and information to the NEC on matters relevant to cancer nursing education
- Assist in the development and delivery of education programs in collaboration with other providers, such as the TITAN program
- Review and comment on documents or educational resources produced by the National Education Framework for Cancer Nursing (EdCaN) project
- Examine and make recommendations regarding the recognition of the specialist cancer nurse role, such as credentialing.

THE CNSA NEC chooses Education Committee members from expressions of interest submitted by members. Essential criteria include:

- A minimum of five years in cancer nursing
- Knowledge of, and interest in, nursing education
- Interest in specialist cancer nursing education
- Current membership of CNSA and membership for the term of Committee membership.

The Education Committee undertakes significant functions on behalf of CNSA membership; contributes a valuable voice with respect to new developments in cancer nursing education, and is an invaluable way to network with colleagues on a national basis.

There is a maximum of ten Education Committee members, who each sit a two year renewable term, with a maximum term of four years. **Calls for nominations to the Education Committee are now invited** from CNSA members, to commence in January 2012.

Please send a maximum one-page response addressing the criteria to **Nicole King, Chair, CNSA Education Committee**, at Nicole.king@petermac.org. The closing date is April 15th, 2011.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Education Committee, please contact the current Chair of the Education Committee, **Nicole King:** Nicole.king@petermac.org

Following the call for **nominations to the Editorial Board of the Australian Journal of Cancer Nursing** in the last edition of the CNSA Newsletter for 2010, Tish Lancaster and Mei Krishnasamy, co-editors of the AJCN are pleased to announce that Gabrielle Prest, Catherine Johnson, Elisabeth Coyne and Moira Stephens have been appointed to the Editorial Board. Louise Nicolson was re-appointed to continue her valued contribution the Board. A big welcome to them all!

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO HOST CNSA WINTER CONGRESS IN 2012 AND 2013

CNSA Winter Congress has emerged as the premier cancer nursing conference event in Australia. Winter Congress has been hosted in every capital city in Australia with the exception of Darwin and has been held on the Gold Coast and in Newcastle. Over 360 delegates gathered in Perth last year for another highly successful conference of presentations, learning and networking and this year we are expecting close to 500 delegates in Sydney!

CNSA invites Regional Groups and/or States to register their interest in hosting the Annual Winter Congress in 2012 and 2013. Hosting Winter Congress is an incredible opportunity to become more involved with CNSA and to showcase and market local talent to cancer nurses from all over Australia. The CNSA NEC provides support and guidance to the Congress Local Organising Committee, and so no experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and lots of energy.

Expressions of Interest should be endorsed by the Regional Group Chair or State Representative for your State or Territory.

Selection of the most appropriate Host City will be made by the CNSA Winter Congress Planning & Development Committee. Considerations will include:

- Ability to provide an excellent educational, scientific and networking program with national content
- Capacity to host a financially successful congress for 300-plus delegates
- Location of prior Winter Congress meetings to ensure that cancer nurses throughout Australia are provided with the opportunity to attend a CNSA Winter Congress.

Please forward expressions of interest (include 5 copies of the documentations) by Monday, April 4th 2011 to:

Maryanne Hargraves

Chair, CNSA Winter Congress Planning & Development Committee

PO Box 1879

Milton QLD 4064

Email: mhargraves@hoca.com.au

Travel Grants for WA CNSA Members

The Perth & Environs Regional Group is pleased to announce a local Travel Grant for Western Australian CNSA members. This travel grant will only be available to WA CNSA members and will support travel, accommodation and registration for the 2011 CNSA Winter Congress to be held in Sydney.

To be eligible to receive this grant you must have been a financial member for minimum of 1 year, complete the CNSA Travel Grant application process and be willing to share your experience with the wider membership via a CNSA Winter Congress report for the national CNSA newsletter. Travel Grant Guidelines and Applications Forms can be downloaded from the CNSA website www.cnsa.org.au/grants_scholarship_research_travel.htm

Applications strictly close 31st March 2011.

For more information please contact Sam Gibson samantha.gibson@sjog.org.au – Chair Perth & Environs Regional Group of Sandy McKiernan – smckiernan@cancerwa.asn.au WA National Exec Representative.

EdCaN

EdCaN scholarships to the CNSA 14th Winter Congress

The EdCaN project team would like to hear from users of the EdCaN Framework and learning resources. Feedback is always welcome to ensure the resources are up to date and user friendly. We are also offering **two \$1500 scholarships** for users to attend the CNSA 14th Winter Congress. To be eligible for a scholarship you must have an abstract that relates to the implementation of the EdCaN Framework or learning resources for an oral presentation or poster at CNSA 14th Winter Congress. In the case of multiple applications, a selection process will be undertaken which will consider the recommendations of the CNSA abstract review committee and perceived relevance and impact of the paper for the EdCaN project.

For further information, please contact Kylie Ash (k.ash@gut.edu.au) on 07 31386128.

CINSW Grants

Applications are sought from all NSW based universities, cancer services, hospitals, Area Health Services and other

relevant agencies for the Cancer Institute NSW grants that are currently available. Apply for funding for projects and research in a range of areas of cancer care: http://www.cancerinstitute.org.au/cancer_inst/grants/index.html

CNSA Website Links

Our CNSA website www.cnsa.org.au is a valuable source of information to all members and new Website Coordinator **Anne Mellon** is keen to ensure that this continues. Anne will be regularly updating links to useful and interesting external resources, a selection of which are showcased below and are accessible via

<http://www.cnsa.org.au/links.htm>

■ NHMRC Clinical Practice Guidelines

This site has been developed to help clinicians and policy-makers access Australian evidence-based clinical practice guidelines through a single entry point. This portal is an initiative of the National Institute of Clinical Studies, an institute of the Australian Government's National Health and Medical Research Council as part of their mandate to build a healthier Australia. Clinical practice guidelines are 'systematically developed statements to assist practitioner and patient decisions about appropriate health care for specific circumstances' (Field and Lohr, 1990).

■ The Conference Website

This site is the free one-stop website for all your Medical Conference and Course needs. Designed and run by a Doctor, it can help you find the best Conferences and Courses in your Medical Specialty.

■ Anna's Adventure

Sydney born Rhodes Scholar, Doctor, Medical Researcher and Cancer Patient, Anna Donald was a fearless explorer, eager to communicate her experience. While undergoing her fourth round of chemotherapy for breast cancer and exploring complementary therapies, Anna used her formidable skills to offer rare insights from the other side of the doctor-patient divide, and an intimate view of the final challenges in a life lived with great vigour

This website was born out of the extraordinary response to 'From the other side', Anna Donald's Blog on the British Medical Journal (BMJ) website. Many readers of Anna's BMJ blog were deeply moved and often inspired by her writings. Responses to her posts poured in from around the globe from people living with cancer, their carers, oncologists, other medical specialists, health professionals and academics. The video excerpts on this website are from a documentary film about this extraordinary Australian.

Cancer Learning Update

Latest News

Wishing you a very happy new year – though with January now over, it really isn't all that new anymore! Unfortunately, once again Mother Nature has shown just how powerful she can be and we are aware that many colleagues have had a very rough start to 2011. Our thoughts are with those who have been affected by the recent wild weather throughout Australia, particularly the floods that have devastated so many areas. We send our best wishes and hopes that life returns to normal for you very soon. Please contact us at info@cancerlearning.gov.au if we can assist you and your service to get your cancer education and CPD programs up and running again as quickly as possible.

January News

We've been busy this month! Below are details about the new features and functions now available when you visit [Cancer Learning...](#)

Cancer Learning goes [mobile](#)

This month we have launched the Cancer Learning PDA site, which will allow you to access the latest news and resources recently added to the site via your mobile phone or hand held device. Pop the following URL into your mobile browser to take a look at the specially modified site: www.cancerlearning.gov.au/mobile.

New [tumour specific](#) pages

Following on from the [Lung Cancer](#) page that was launched in October 2010, we have begun to populate five other tumour specific pages in the [FIND](#) section of Cancer Learning with a wide range of new resources and educational activities:

- [Breast Cancer](#)
- [Colorectal Cancer](#)
- [Melanoma and skin cancers](#)
- [Prostate Cancer](#)
- [Rare Cancers](#) – including resources across a broad range of rarer malignancies

These pages will continue to expand as more resources and activities are submitted to us for evaluation and inclusion. If you have developed or use a resource you think could be included on one of these pages, or in another section of the site, please [submit](#) them so they can be shared with others on Cancer Learning.

Upgraded [Cancer Learning modules](#)

The following three modules that have been developed by the Cancer Learning team have recently been updated and migrated to a new learning management system, [Moodle](#):

- [MDC Toolkit](#)

- [Frontline Psychosocial Tutorial](#)
- [Clinician:Manager Connect](#)

Using this new platform, you can create an individual user profile that will track your progress and record your results in each module. Please note that if you have previously been allocated a username and password for any of these modules, they will no longer be valid. However you can quickly and easily create for yourself a new, common login that will connect you to each of the current Cancer Learning modules and to any new programs developed for the platform in the future. Give them a try and let us know what you think!

Updated CPD Requirements

There may have been changes to your continuing professional development requirements since the introduction of National Registration on 1 July. We have compiled a brief summary of the requirements of several professional bodies and accrediting organisations, complete with links to further information, to assist you to ensure you meet the continuing education requirements of your profession. You can find it in the Plan section of the website by clicking on Professional Bodies in the left hand menu.

Australian Lung Foundation – new resources

The Australian Lung Foundation has recently translated two lung cancer resources into 7 languages (Chinese, Dinka, Arabic, Bengali, Vietnamese, Italian and Greek) through Cancer Australia funding “*Collaborative Cancer Supports Networks Grants Program*”.

These resources have been uploaded onto the patient/carer support website – The Kylie Johnston Lung Cancer Network and the Lung Foundation website.

To access these translated resources go to <http://www.kilcn.org.au/pages/LOTE.php>

The Foundation has also recently developed two new resources:

The “**Answering your Questions about Lung Cancer**” brochure is useful for patients shortly after they have been diagnosed. It answers common questions patients and their carers might ask and provides questions to consider asking when they visit their various specialists.

The new lung cancer patient DVD **Lung Cancer, Understanding, Managing, Living** developed by Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Cancer Council Victoria and The Australian Lung Foundation is now available for distribution.

It is available in 2 ways – uploaded chapter by chapter via <http://www.kilcn.org.au/pages/resources.php> or request a copy to be sent by post via the website. For further

information please contact **Kerrie Callaghan** on 07 3251 3641 or at kerrie@lungfoundation.com.au

CALENDER REMINDERS – EVENTS

2nd - 3rd April 2011

IGCS REGIONAL MEETING ON GYNECOLOGICAL CANCERS
New Delhi, India

<http://www2.kenes.com/IGCS/Pages/home.aspx>

28th – 30th April 2011

AUSTRALIAN BRACHYTHERAPY GROUP
20th Annual Scientific Meeting
Sheraton Hotel Perth, Western Australia

<http://conferenceworks.net.au/abg/>

18th – 20th May 2011

24th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN MUSCULOSKELETAL ONCOLOGY SOCIETY

Ghent, Belgium

<http://www.emsos2011.be/>

23rd – 25th June 2011

MASCC/ISOO 2011 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
Athens, Greece

<http://www2.kenes.com/mascc/Pages/home.aspx>

21st-23rd July 2011

CNSA Winter Congress

Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre

<http://cnsa.org.au/documents/feb2011/1.%20CNSA%202011%20Call%20for%20abstracts.pdf>

15th–17th November 2011

COSA ASM

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Western Australia

<http://www.cosa.org.au/asm/event-asm.html>

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Next Executive meeting 21st March 2011

Please raise any issues with state representative members or the National Chair via info@cnsa.org.au

2011 CNSA Executive Contact Details

<p>Mei Krishnasamy (Chair) Nurse Director – Clinical Practice Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre Phone: 0437 627 100 mei.krishnasamy@petermac.org</p>	<p>VIC Representative : Position Vacant</p>
<p>Megan Nutt (ACT, Treasurer) Nurse Care Coordinator Head and Neck Cancer Capital Region Cancer Service, ACT Health Phone: 02 6244 3446 megan.nutt@act.gov.au</p>	<p>Anne Mellon (NSW, Website and Membership Coordinator) Clinical Nurse Consultant Gynaecological Oncology Hunter New England Centre for Gynaecological Cancer Phone: 02 4921 4617 Anne.Mellon@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au</p>
<p>Louise Nicholson (TAS, Editorial Board - AJCN) Nurse Unit Manager Outpatient Oncology Services Royal Hobart Hospital Phone: 03 6222 8238 louise.nicholson@dhhs.tas.gov.au</p>	<p>Tracey Doherty (SA, Special Interest Groups Coordinator) Clinical Practice Nursing Director Cancer Services Central Northern Adelaide Health Service Phone: 0402 759 548 tracey.doherty@health.sa.gov.au</p>
<p>Sandy McKiernan (WA, Regional Groups Coordinator) Cancer Services Director Cancer Council WA Phone: 0413 999 383 smckiernan@cancerwa.asn.au</p>	<p>Alexandra McCarthy (QLD, NEC Rep-Education Committee) Senior Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer Queensland University of Technology and Princess Alexandra Hospital Phone: 07 3138 3850 al.mccarthy@qut.edu.au</p>
<p>Tish Lancaster (ISNCC Representative) Westmead Hospital Phone: 02 9845 5555 pager 08503 Letitia.Lancaster@wsahs.nsw.gov.au</p>	<p>Gabrielle Prest (Ex-Officio) Contact via Liesa Bruhn Phone: 0402 161300 liesa.bruhn@outofsiteservices.com.au</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">For more information on all CNSA activities visit: info@cnsa.org.au</p>	





2011 TRAVEL & RESEARCH GRANTS

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM FINANCIAL CNSA MEMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING GRANTS:

TRAVEL GRANTS

- **Travel Grants (two rounds)** are available to attend a local, national or international conference. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the CNSA Education Committee.
Closing dates 31st March and 31st August 2011.
- **Travel Grants (two rounds) for 'new' cancer nurses** are available to nurses who have been working as a cancer nurse for less than 3 years to attend a local, national or international conference. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the CNSA Education Committee.
Closing dates 31st March and 31st August 2011.
- **Ipsen Travel Awards** are available to provide funding for two CNSA members to attend the Cancer Nurses Society of Australia to attend 2011 CNSA Winter Congress.
Closing date: 31st March 2011.

Enquiries:

Nicole King
Chair, CNSA Education Committee
Email: Nicole.King@petermac.org

RESEARCH GRANTS

- **Research Grants** are available to support research into any aspect of cancer nursing. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the CNSA Research Committee. Applicants requiring assistance in developing a research proposal should contact Leanne Monterosso, Chair CNSA Research Committee: **closing date 30th June 2011.**

Enquiries:

Leanne Monterosso
Chair, CNSA Research Committee
Email: leanne.monterosso@nd.edu.au

TRAVEL AND RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS

- Members who have not received a grant within the past 12 months are encouraged to apply for any of the above grants.
- Any individual or team who is actively involved in an aspect of cancer nursing may apply for the above grants. The applicant (or the chief investigator in the case of a research team) must:
 1. Have been a financial member of the CNSA for a minimum of 12 months.
 2. Be currently employed as a nurse and working in a cancer related field.



2011 TRAVEL & RESEARCH GRANTS

- A proposed **budget must be submitted** with all applications. For Travel Awards the application must be supported by a copy of at least 1 quote for airfare and accommodation and a copy of the conference brochure. For research grant applications, a detailed budget justification is required.
- Applications must be submitted according to the '**Guidelines for Applicants**' for each category of award or grant. These are available by downloading from the CNSA website (www.cnsa.org.au).
- **Late applications and those that do not fulfil the award criteria or provide all documentation will not be accepted. All applications must include the signed 'Declaration of Responsibilities'** found in the Guidelines.





2011 TRAVEL & RESEARCH GRANTS

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM CANCER NURSES, A&TSI HEALTH WORKERS AND/OR A&TSI REGISTERED GENERAL NURSES FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

PAM RENOUF MEMORIAL STUDY AWARDS

Category A: Career development study award – cancer nurses

- These awards are available to any cancer nurse who wishes to undertake post graduate study through a Graduate or Graduate Diploma or Masters program that increases his or her skills in cancer nursing. **Closing date 30th June 2011.**

Category B: Career development study award – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and A&TSI General Nurses

- These awards are available to any A&TSI health worker or general nurse to support travel, accommodation, tuition or conference registration fees and incidental costs for professional development including accredited study or relevant conference participation. **Closing date 30th June 2011.**

Category C: Study awards in recognition of long service

- These long service study awards are available to a cancer nurse to recognise seven or more years of full time or equivalent service in cancer care and treatment. The award is available to support significant professional development opportunities such as: a) travel, accommodation and living expenses required to support a study tour in Australia or overseas and b) a Post Graduate Study Program that will enhance the applicant's ability to contribute to the Australian community in any way. **Closing date 30th June 2011**

Enquiries:

Nicole King
Chair CNSA Education Committee
Email: Nicole.King@petermac.org

Pam Renouf Memorial Study Award Applications

- Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident or have resided in Australia for five years (may include some discontinuous residence).
- Category A applicants must have practised as a nurse caring for those with cancer for a minimum of 2 years.
- Category B applicants must be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers or General Nurses.
- Category C applicants must be Registered or Enrolled Nurses with no formal qualifications in cancer nursing and with a minimum of seven years full time experience.
- A proposed **budget with full justification of all costings must be submitted** with the application.



2011 TRAVEL & RESEARCH GRANTS

- Applications must be submitted according to the '**Guidelines for Applicants**' for each category of award or grant. These are available by downloading from the CNSA website (www.cnsa.org.au).
- **Late applications and those that do not fulfil the award criteria or provide all documentation will not be accepted. All applications must include the signed 'Declaration of Responsibilities'** found in the Guidelines.

