



International Federation of Perioperative Nurses

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IFPN: Connecting the world of Perioperative Nursing

Newsletter

January 2007



Change to IFPN Executive Board

We recognise the years of service and efforts of Kate Woodhead and Villi Pieterse in progressing the IFPN organisation.

Kate Woodhead joined the Executive Board as Vice President from 2001-2002 and as President from 2002-2006. Under her leadership IFPN has moved steadily forward with the production of guidelines and position statements, the collaborative work with EORNA, and with the publication of the *International Perioperative Online Journal* to name a few of the initiatives occurring during her term.

Villi Pieterse has offered her unique perspectives as a member of the Executive Board from 2001-2006. Throughout her years of service, Villi has contributed to any project in which she has participated and shared her wisdom at the Board table. Coming from an African country and a small, progressive organization [SATS], her insights have proven invaluable to the conducting of business and the production of guidelines and position statements.

As we bid a fond farewell to these leaders, we send our gratitude for their leadership and for their gracious gifts of time and talent to IFPN.

Mission Statement

The IFPN will support perioperative nurses globally to improve patient care by promoting evidence-based, best practice standards through research and education in collaboration with member organisations.

Benefits of IFPN membership:

- ✓ Only perioperative affiliate to ICN with ongoing communications
- ✓ E-newsletter to update activities
- ✓ Access to online *International Journal of Perioperative Practice*
- ✓ Educational conferences [dates if possible]
- ✓ Connection to global perioperative colleagues
- ✓ Website: www.ifpn.org.uk

Introduction to 2007 IFPN Board

2007-2008 Executive Board:

President: James Harrison
JHarrison@stlukes.com.au

Vice President: Betty Shultz
ShultzDB@aol.com

Secretary: Sheila Allen
allensl@hughes.net

Treasurer: Lesley Fudge
lesleyfudge@mac.com

Board Members:
Margaret Farley – rfarley@accesscom.ca
Kim Hepper – hepperkim@hotmail.com
Melanie van Limborgh – Melanie.vanlimborg@afpp.org.uk



President's Message

Worldwide Perioperative colleagues

Happy New Year and welcome to our newsletter.

I am sure that you will find it informative and useful; we are hoping to produce a newsletter every two months and look forward to receiving information from you that you think may be of benefit to our global community.

The Executive Board have been very busy since the hand over meeting in Harrogate, as well as developing this newsletter we are working on holding an international conference supported by the CNR countries, and we are developing a user friendly professional web site. The start of a New Year always heralds change and we are excited about the challenges ahead, I believe that we are becoming a more progressive and transparent organization which is prepared to adapt to the challenges facing a relatively new group. The Board are encouraged by the collaborative relationships developing with our members and a sure that this will result in positive outcomes for all.

The Board have taken a decision to limit the number of face to face meetings each year in an effort to be fiscally prudent to one. This year the face to face and CNR meeting will be held in association with our Canadian colleague's conference in Victoria British Columbia in April.

We are grateful to our Canadian colleagues for hosting our meeting and your board looks forward to meeting with as many of you as possible at that time.

James Harrison



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CNR Spotlight : ORNAC

ORNAC was formed in 1984 and is a federation of ten provincial perioperative nursing organisations with two affiliate member groups; the Canadian Operating Room Leaders Group and the Registered Nurse First Assistant Network of Canada. ORNAC became a founder member of IFPN in 1999 with Past President Margaret Farley elected as a member of the IFPN Executive Board until 2008.

ORNAC is an association of registered nurses dedicated to the promotion of excellence in perioperative patient care, and the professional and personal enhancement of perioperative registered nurses.

Activities

Standards, Guidelines and Position Statements for Perioperative Registered Nursing Practice were remodeled into a module format in 2003. Currently the development of Module 2: Infection Prevention and Control is underway with an expected publication for Spring 2007.

Special Projects – national promotion of the RN First Assistant role will be launched in April 2007.

Journal – A special edition showcasing the RNFA is being developed along with a focus on our relationship with industry partners.

Collaborative Activity – ORNAC continues to meet and work collaboratively with the Canadian Anesthesia Society and allied health professionals to create & develop the anesthesia assistant role. However this is not an easy relationship due to threats created by other role developments, such as the nurse anesthetist role.

ORNAC sits as a voting member of the Canadian patient safety Institute; are partners with Safer Healthcare Now!, the Canadian Council of Donation & Transplantation and the Canadian Standard Association Technical Committee on Sterilization.

The **website**, www.ornac.ca continues to grow and flourish, over 3 million hits in a 2 year period. The website also contains a virtual office for our Executive & Board to use

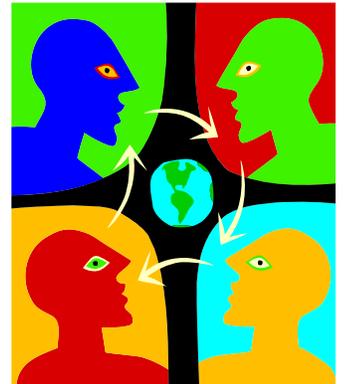
The **20th National ORNAC Conference** will be held in Victoria, BC, April 22-27, 2007, with the theme *Lighting the Way to Perioperative Excellence*. This conference will also feature the IFPN Study day as well as an official meeting of the Council of Nursing Representatives during our conference

Please send your articles, press releases, and web links for future newsletters via e-mail to newsletter editor:
Kim Hepper hepperkim@hotmail.com

CNR NEWS

During each CNR meeting, those representatives present are asked to provide an update on the perioperative issues impacting on practice within their own countries.

As CNR meetings occur infrequently we are hoping that CNR members will utilise the facility of this newsletter to further share both their organisational activities as well as developments of professional issues to share with the international perioperative community.



CNR issues:

ORNAC [Marcy McKay]: Workforce mix; introduction of new roles [previously all RN; now surgical technologists and licensed vocational/practical nurses]; look at incorporating ORNAC consultant with Board financial review.

AfPP [Jane Reid]: Restructuring of the NHS and their functions has had a large impact on education and training, financially impacting on the AfPP because of decreasing funds. AfPP have assisted members by providing grant funding for educational programs and have supported 150 members to attend Congress. Four educational events have been cancelled. Members are being asked to consider the organisation becoming a registered charity. The aging population is becoming a major concern both within the perioperative environment as well as to the organisation- lost 1000 members in one year to retirement.

AORN [Mary Jo Steiert]: Retirement of Executive Director Tom Cooper, with Ellen Murphy serving as interim ED. New Fire Safety Toolkit available as download online from AORN website – contains information on video, fire evacuation plan, etc.; and recruiting and retaining members with a flattened membership.

ACORN [Jennifer Rabach]: Workforce issues including impact of aging workforce; changing skill mix including threat of unregulated assistive personnel, expanding role of the “enrolled nurse”; nurse sedationists. Much of the current skill mix investigations have been generated by government agencies. Development of certificate programs for perioperative education, and the maintenance and development of the association for the future.

SATS [Villi Pieterse]: Healthcare diseases prevalent with particular concerns about BBV and TB strains – new ones for which there is no cure; increasing numbers with HIV; migration issues indicate a gap in the future with critical shortages; short courses offered and semi-skilled workers, trained, then grabbed by industry; unskilled workers are being grabbed by industry for education for the costs are less than for the RN; decreasing membership as nurses are just “too tired” to do more; health services focus on the “bottom line.”

Observers are permitted to attend CNR meetings and at the most recent meeting a perioperative nurse from **Malawi** provided a perspective of the issues facing her country and included - not enough personal protective equipment [PPE] for all personnel in OR; items must be used more than once; difficult to obtain supplies; work long hours as there is no relief.

IFPN Website

At the IFPN website www.ifpn.org.uk, you can find information about the organization, application for membership, the latest meeting information, the only online international perioperative journal, newsletters, and documents from the International Council of Nurses. Also on this valuable site, you can find links to some of our industry partners, member and other nursing organizations, ICN, as well as a discussion forum. Any questions or comments may be directed to info@ifpn.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please send your articles, press releases, and web links for future newsletters via e-mail to newsletter editor: Kim Hepper hepperkim@hotmail.com

EXECUTIVE UPDATES

- Constitution completed & ratified by CNR
- IFPN Conference Proposal – business case to be developed
- CNR Education information package developed

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PERIOPERATIVE CARE

The International Journal of Perioperative Care was launched recently to assist perioperative nurses to share developments with their peers enabling them to keep pace with practice changes, as well as to magnify and provide catalysts for change in other places.

Kathryn Schroeter, our Editor, along with Kate Woodhead, our immediate Past President are to be congratulated for their efforts in the creation of the first publication which can be viewed online at www.ifpn.org.uk Download to share with friends!

It is now up to the international community, to value its commitment & practice in the provision of high quality perioperative care and submit articles to further the message.

Contact: Kathryn Schroeter Editor

Ways you can serve with the IFPN:

- ✓ Executive Board
- ✓ Committee/Task Force chair
- ✓ Committee/Task Force member

Calendar of Events 2007

SATS Conference 12-16th March 2007
Bloemfontein, SA

AORN Congress 11-15th March 2007
Orlando, Florida

ORNAC Conference 21-23 April 2007
Victoria, BC

PNCNZ 30 – 1st Aug- Sept 2007
Dunedin, NZ

World Conference 1-4th October 2007
Seoul, Korea

AfPP Congress 8-11th October
Harrogate, UK

IFPN STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

Existing Guidelines available for Download on website:

- Surgical Counts
- General handwashing
- Surgical handwashing
- Surgical Site Skin Preparation
- Sterilization & Disinfection

Guidelines & Position Statements approved in 2006 & await posting on the IFPN website:

- Use of Protective Eyewear
- Masks in the Perioperative Environment
- Endorsement of ICN Global Nurse Migration Document
- The Right to be Protected from Blood Borne Diseases

CNR suggestions of topics for potential Guidelines :

- Promoting the image of perioperative nurses
- Documenting nursing
- Guidance on recruiting from overseas, impact on host nations health economy/ethics of poaching
- Guidance on reducing packaging/environmental awareness
- Patient dignity
- MRI guided surgery in the OR
- Staffing
- Cultural safety

CNR suggestions of topics for potential Position Statements:

- Increasing use of ancillary workers in nursing positions
- Implementing evidence based practice
- Violence in the workplace
- Patient autonomy & choice
- Dress Code in the OR
- Nurse to Patient Ratio in OR
- Safe Work / On call

Anyone wishing to provide assistance in the development of any guideline or position statement, please contact Betty Schultz ShultzDB@aol.com

Member Countries

Member countries represent perioperative nurses from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand, United Kingdom, and the United States. Papua New Guinea is a pre-member.

Membership in IFPN is open to all national perioperative nursing organisations, or regional organisations, who wish to have a voice in the greater arena of international perioperative nursing.

Dedication to excellence on any level, in any area, requires an intensity of emotional investment. Unfortunately there are scores of people who do not make the investment – who do not feel strongly about anything.
Theodore Isaac Rubin.