



CNSA News

Volume 12 Issue 1

February 2007

FROM WHERE I SIT....A REPORT FROM CNSA'S CHAIRPERSON

Gabrielle Prest

Welcome to the first issue for 2007 and the first for my term of Chair. I'd like to thank Kate Cameron and the National Committee (and my all cancer nursing colleagues) for their warm welcome. I would like to draw your attention to a few major initiatives that are reported on by the many cancer nurses from around Australia who contribute to the health and functioning of your society. In particular :

The National Cancer Nursing Education Project (**EdCan**). The website for this project is now live, www.edcan.com.au for information about the project and how to get involved.

Winter Congress 2007 is being held in August in Melbourne in conjunction with the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (very exciting - our first combined meeting!!). Expressions of interest have been called for to host WC 2008.

Cancer Australia is the new federally funded initiative to address cancer control efforts across Australia under Professor David Currow's stewardship. Cancer nursing

input in the activities of Cancer Australia are crucial and we will certainly be calling for people to participate in their activities.

Call for nominations for **National Executive Committee for 2008 – 2009** are also out... please consider 'having a go' and representing your state.

For the many of you I will get to meet, a bit about me.... I am employed with the Leukaemia Foundation in NSW, after a long career in a range of roles in cancer nursing that includes clinical areas in both acute haem/onc and palliative care, and management and post graduate education in cancer care. I had the great privilege of being on the first national executive of the CNSA years ago, so I have a feel for what we need to get on with!

Remember that you can contact any member of the National Executive Committee to raise issues related to cancer nursing. In the next Newsletter we'll talk more about what they do behind the scenes, and the **Titan** project with AMGEN. All the best for 2007!!

CNSA 9th WINTER CONGRESS, ADELAIDE 2006

For those lucky enough to attend Winter Congress you must agree that it was an excellent event!

Our keynote speaker was Shelley Dolan from the Royal Marsden Hospital in London. Not only was she dynamic and inspiring but such a lovely person too. Other invited speakers included David Currow, Sara Flemming, Bogda Koczwara, Simon Murphy, Sue O'Neill and Leonie Zadow. You may note this was a great opportunity to showcase local talent as all of these speakers work in South Australia or the Northern Territory.

The pre-conference workshops were well attended, as were the breakfast sessions and feedback was generally

positive. The social program was great fun and Lucifers Lounge such a hit! The only disappointment this year was the lack of proffered papers, especially the lack of posters. This is such an effective way of sharing your work with other cancer nurses and I encourage all to consider submitting an abstract for CNSA 2007.

Such a successful event would not have been possible if not for the dedication and hard work over the year by the Local Organising Committee and Winter Congress Committee. It was a wonderful experience to chair such a professional and enthusiastic team. Many thanks and congratulations to Polly Baldwin, Carina Boehm, Sophie Egan, Lisa Elliott, Carmel Henderson (Deputy Chair), Chris Hoare, Judy Iasiello, Heather Pearse, Marg Redden, Sharon Reinbrecht, Sue Spencer and the fabulous Keith Cox (Chair Winter Congress Committee).

Tracey Doherty: Chair of Local Organising Committee 2006.

Evaluation

From the 250 delegates, there were 64 who completed the evaluation. The majority (56) of delegates rated the conference overall and quality as very good. General comments included: great venue, great food, great programme and sitting down to eat lunch was excellent. Outstanding plenary speakers-especially Shelley Dolan.

- **2006 Winter Congress report**
- **Call for nominations- CNSA Winter Congress Planning and Development Committee Chair**
- **Regional Group news**
- **Special Interest Group – Breast update**
- **EdCaN update**
- **CVAD working party update**
- **Plus much more....**

Posters need to have a more prominent position, not hidden away at the back of the room, also disappointing there were only 8 posters.

Interestingly, out of the 62 delegates that ticked the box are you a member of CNSA there were 19 non members, 16

of those ticked they would consider becoming a member. Congratulations to Tracey Doherty and the members of Adelaide's LOC for an outstanding conference.

Keith Cox: Chair Winter Congress Committee

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Winter Congress Planning and Development Committee: Chair

If you have some experience in organising events then this is a job for you. The Congress Chair is appointed for a three year term, renewable for a further 3 years. The Winter Congress Planning and Development Committee is responsible for:

- Selection of a host city and venue
- Liaising with professional conference organizers regarding:
 - Industry sponsorship for congress.
 - Selection of and agreements with, congress venue.
 - Printing, advertising, speaker's travel, meals and entertainment, and satchels, to ensure that these expenses are in line with the congress approved budget.
 - Advertisement of event - CNSA website, in CNSA News and in the Australian Journal of Cancer Nursing.
- Liaising with the Local Organising Committee to facilitate
 - Themes and topics in the congress program
 - A successful meeting.
- Maintaining appropriate records of meetings, contracts, budgets, expenditure and other official documentation relating to Winter Congress.

Other members of the committee include:

- Congress Team Leader (committee Chairperson).
- CNSA Treasurer.
- Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee.
- One member of the CNSA National Executive Committee
- CNSA Chairperson (ex officio)

For further information and a position description contact Keith Cox, CNSA Winter Congress Planning and Development Committee:

Chair on 02 9515 7698 or 02 9515 6111, Pager: 80943 or by email: keith.cox@cs.nsw.gov.au

Interested individuals should forward their application with supporting curriculum vitae to Gabrielle Prest, Chair CNSA, by 01/03/2007.

COSA
GPO Box 4708
Sydney 2001

Phone: 02 9036 3100
Fax: 02 9036 3101
Email: info@cnsa.org.au

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Cancer Nurses Society of Australia, National Executive Committee Elections 2007

This is your chance to play a roll in your national organisation and be part of a great professional team. The elected members will fill positions on the CNSA NEC for a period of two years commencing 1 January 2008. Committee members may serve a maximum of two terms (four years). A statement outlining the responsibilities of members of the NEC follows. For more information, see the CNSA constitution (www.cnsa.org.au).

Nominations are required in writing to reach the Executive Officer of COSA by 31 May 2007 for the positions of one representative from each of the 8 Australian states/territories. Each nomination must have a proposer and seconder and be signed by the nominee as accepting the nomination. All must be ordinary members of the CNSA.

All nominees must submit the following information with their nomination:

- Biographical information (which includes a brief outline of nominee's experience and qualifications pertaining to the position), and
- A brief statement outlining what the nominee believes they will contribute during their term as a member of the CNSA NEC (no more than 200 words).

To assist CNSA members in voting for candidates, the biographical information and personal position statement submitted with candidate's nomination will be distributed with ballot papers to all ordinary members of CNSA. All ordinary CNSA members are eligible to vote for representatives from each of the states/territories.

For further information contact Gabrielle Prest on gprest@leukaemia.org.au or mobile 0412 706 785 nominations and the accompanying information specified above should be forwarded by 31st May 2007 to:
Executive Officer
COSA
GPO Box 4708
Sydney 2001

REGIONAL GROUP NEWS

ATTENTION Western Australian MEMBERS!!!

I am excited to announce that following a lively gathering of motivated WA members in September, a group of willing volunteers has begun work as a steering committee to generate momentum for a Regional Group for Perth and Environs.

We are pleased to advise you of several forthcoming CNSA education meetings this year. The first date to put in your diaries is 10th March 2007, with at least 3 more meetings to follow this year.

Once the formalities of forming a group have been completed, there will be a call for nominations for regional group committee members. It's important that we have representation from a wide range of fields, including surgical oncology, medical oncology, haematology, paediatric oncology, and both public and private sectors and rural nurses. So please consider the opportunity to work with a likeminded group of motivated cancer nurses, learn or help others learn about committee function and contribute to the professional development and networking opportunities of Western Australian cancer nurses. You'll be surprised what you've got to offer...and to gain!!

Meg Plaster

WA Representative to the National Executive Committee
megan.plaster@health.wa.gov.au

REGIONAL CHAIRS FOR 2007

Melbourne

Tina Griffiths - Tina.Griffiths@petermac.org

Ph: 03 9656 1925

Sydney

Tracy Cosgrove - tcosgrov@nscchahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Ph: 02 9926 8200

Adelaide

Tracey Doherty - Tracey.Doherty@fmc.sa.gov.au

Ph: 08 82045511

Hunter

Lisa Bartley - Lisa.Bartley@healthcare.com.au

Ph: 02 49298727

Brisbane

Lyn Clarke - clarkel@ramsayhealth.com.au

Ph: 07 3394 6739

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP – BREAST CANCER NURSING

The inaugural BCN SIG management committee has just completed its first 2 year term which saw our SIG continue to grow in membership reaching our 100th SIG member recently. As of Jan 1st a new management committee has been endorsed to see our group continue to make progress over the next 2 years. I want to thank all of the outgoing management committee members for all their support over the last 2 years and extend a warm welcome to the new management committee members.

The new BCN SIG committee will see me continue in the role of chair, with Andrea Cannon from Victoria as Deputy Chair, Alison Swaczjer from NSW and Marion Stron from Qld - Marion is a brand new committee member, Andrea and Alison held previous positions. Welcome and thanks and I look forward to working together to ensure that our SIG will move forward in 2007.

One of the new initiatives that the SIG will introduce in 2007 is an electronic sharing of journal articles of relevance and/or interest to breast cancer nursing. This will commence most likely in February and will see all current members receiving this information via email - so please if you find that you are not hearing from the committee or indeed you have not received emails in the past from the SIG committee - please inform me of your accurate email contact ASAP - I can be contacted on Tina.Griffiths@petermac.org

If you come across any journal articles that you would like to share with our members, you can forward it to me and I will then be able to circulate it more widely to all SIG members. You never know - this might then lead to our very own electronic journal club - it really is very much up to you as to where and how this can assist in a professional development and educational way. Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy 2007. Best wishes **Tina Griffiths**

CNSA NEWS 2007

CNSA News will be published four times in 2007. News articles, comments and items of interest from members are welcome and encouraged. Items should be forwarded in MS word format and pictures in JPEG format via email to Maree Bransdon, Editor, at maree_bransdon@health.qld.gov.au. The remaining submission deadlines for 2007 are 16th April, 18th June, and 17th September.

NATIONAL CANCER NURSING EDUCATION PROJECT (EdCaN) - NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR CANCER NURSES

The scoping and planning phase of the 4-year EdCaN project is nearly complete. Thank you to all CNSA members who have contributed to the project to date. 2006 was a busy year for EdCaN with the successful establishment of a national steering committee and employment of staff. The project's communication strategy involving website, promotional displays at relevant conferences and consultation workshops with key nursing stakeholders has successfully engaged over 250 individuals from across Australia to date. A national framework for cancer nursing role and scope definition has been drafted, and the discussion paper is currently available for comment on the EdCaN website. This framework will provide a model from which the education preparation of cancer nurses can be developed. EdCaN has also begun to identify current cancer specific education programs offered in undergraduate and postgraduate courses in preparation for a gaps analysis in light of the framework.

In 2007, EdCaN moves into the next project phase to develop a national training package for specialist and advanced cancer nursing practice. Work has commenced on curriculum and competency writing and online resource material preparation to support the delivery of a pilot online education program. Active consultation with nursing stakeholders will also continue, and will expand to education providers and consumers. It is also timely to remind anyone interested in the EdCaN project to register as a stakeholder via the website www.edcan.org to receive further updates.

We thank the CNSA for its continued commitment to this important project and we look forward to working closely with the incoming CNSA Chair Gabrielle Prest and the Executive as we head into challenging issues of national education standards and credentialing.

CANCER AUSTRALIA UPDATE

CNSA have been invited to nominate for a representative on the Cancer Australia Quality and Professional Development National Advisory Group which is currently being formed – more information will be provided on the outcome and role of this group as it becomes available. Following is an overview of the purpose and role of Cancer Australia.

Cancer Australia is a new Australian Government agency established to help reduce the impact of cancer in the community.

Its purpose is to:

- Coordinate and liaise between the wide range of organisations, groups and service providers with an interest in cancer care and support;
- Guide improvements to cancer prevention and care;
- Ensure treatment is evidence based wherever possible;
- Make recommendations to the Australian Government about cancer policy and priorities;
- Work with the research community to develop and fund research programs that can improve cancer care; and
- Assist with the implementation of Australian Government policies and programs in cancer control.

In meeting these responsibilities, Cancer Australia will collaborate with consumers, health professionals, researchers, cancer organisations and other stakeholders to:

- Enhance support, information and participation in decision-making for people with cancer and their caregivers;
- Improve the quality of cancer care, and support for health professionals; and
- Increase coordination and funding of cancer research, and actively support cancer clinical trials.

Kate Cameron, past CNSA Chair

From 2 January, Cancer Australia™'s national office will be located at:

Level 1
243 Northbourne Avenue
Lyneham ACT 2602
Tel: (02) 6200 1700

Postal address:
PO Box 1201
Dickson ACT 2602
Fax: (02) 6200 1799

CENTRAL VENOUS ACCESS DEVEICE WORKING PARTY UPDATE

The group continues to progress with the development of guidelines for the management of Central Venous Access Devices. The guidelines have now been sent out for critical review, the next step is to make the necessary changes following this review. Our intention is to launch the guidelines at the 2007 Winter Congress for CNSA.

Thanks must go to all involved in the working party, with special acknowledgment to Linda Barrett and Susan Adams who have devoted numerous hours to this project. This project has been much bigger than any of us thought when we started but we can see the light at the end of the tunnel and look forward to producing an invaluable document for all to incorporate into their work.
SUE BROOKS Chair - Working Party CVAD guidelines

GRANTS

Applications are invited from financial CNSA members for the following grants:

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 2007**. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the Grants & 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 2007**. The value of the grant will be allocated according to the quality of the application, as determined by members of the Grants & Awards Committee
- **Ipsen Travel Awards** to attend 2007 CNSA Winter Congress in Melbourne: **closing date 31st March 2007**.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- **CNSA Research Grant** to undertake research into any aspect of cancer nursing: **closing date 30th June 2007**.

Applications

- Any individual or team who is 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:
 1. have been a financial member of the CNSA for a minimum of 12 months; and
 2. 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 Tish Lancaster, 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) or phoning the COSA office on 02 9036 3100.
- A proposed **budget must be submitted** with the application. For travel grants the application must be supported by a copy of at least 1 quote for airfare and accommodation and (with the exception of 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 close of business on the due date. Faxed or emailed applications cannot be accepted. **Late applications and those that do not fulfill 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: Tish Lancaster, Chair CNSA Grants and Awards Committee. Phone: 02 9845 5555 pager 08503 or Email: Letitia_Lancaster@wsahs.nsw.gov.au

WINTER CONGRESS 2007

In 2007 the CNSA Winter Congress is being held as an inaugural joint meeting with the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA), celebrating the 10th CNSA Winter Congress!

The theme will be 'From Good Clinical Science to the Patient'. The organising committee will be calling for abstracts early in 2007. The CNSA component of the conference will commence on Thursday August 2nd, with pre-conference workshops on the following topics:

- Clinical Research - from Start to Publication
- Advanced Role of the Cancer Nurse
- Communication Skills
- The Nurse's Role in Genetic Counselling

All of these workshops will require pre-registration. Further details regarding the workshops and other conference sessions will be available in early 2007.

Further information available through the website www.cnsa.org.au

WEBSITE REPORT (www.cnsa.org.au)

The usage of the CNSA website continues to be strong as shown in the tables. The top 10 hits by country are listed and show that there is interest from diverse regions. The use of the website rises sharply around times of major activity such as Winter Congress. The maintenance of the website is functioning well with the updating of information currently outsourced to Daniel Drake. This arrangement remains under review by the NEC as we move towards the use of external administrative support which could potentially include website management. This is my last report on the website as the overall management of the CNSA emails and website has now been taken up by Megan Plaster (National Executive Committee, WA). Many thanks to all those who were involved in the review of the website in 2005/6 and the subsequent transition to new management, including Gordon Poulton, Margaret Proctor, Catherine Jones and Megan Plaster.

The National Executive Committee identifies the website as an essential part of communication with members and endeavors to keep the information listed accurate and up-to-date. There is still opportunity for any members with skills or experience in the area of website management to become involved so please contact Megan Plaster if you would like more information.

Summary of hits by Month Daily average and Monthly total

Jan 2007	540	9728
Dec 2006	352	10942
Nov 2006	628	18853
Oct 2006	529	16410
Sep 2006	494	14828
Aug 2006	648	20090
Jul 2006	695	21569
Jun 2006	1074	18265

Top 10 by hits of 22 total countries

#	Hits	%	Country
1	4991	51%	Australia
2	2719	27%	Unresolved/Unknown
3	2005	10%	US Commercial
4	706	8%	Network
5	147	2%	US Educational
6	117	2%	New Zealand
7	41	1%	US Military
8	41	1%	Portugal
9	34	1%	India
10	33	1%	United Kingdom

Submitted by Kate Cameron - Website Working Party
To provide any feedback on the website or for enquiries please email info@cnsa.org.au

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For general membership and other enquiries email info@cnsa.org.au.

NEW JOURNAL: Cancer & Chemotherapy Reviews

Cancer & Chemotherapy Reviews is a new medical publication dedicated to Medical Oncology and Hemato-Oncology, which plans to offer updated reviews by international experts, with the necessary content and breadth to fully acquaint readers with the latest developments. This review, of high educational interest, will be published in hard-copy format, with each issue containing five previously selected articles on the most recent developments, and with a total of three issues a year. View the website: www.cancerchemotherapyreviews.com

Online national directory of breast cancer services launched www.nbcc.org.au/hsd

The National Breast Cancer Centre has launched a comprehensive and user-friendly online Directory of hospital based breast cancer services across Australia. The online Directory at www.nbcc.org.au/hsd was designed to provide breast cancer patients and referring doctors with detailed information about the range of breast cancer services available both in their local area and through established referral links to specialist services in other regions.

The types of services covered in the Directory include diagnostic services, breast surgery (including reconstructive surgery), radiotherapy, chemotherapy, palliative care, genetic counselling, supportive care, clinical trials and family accommodation.

CALENDER REMINDERS - EVENTS

15th and 16th February 2007

9th National Breast Care Nurses Conference.
Melbourne Convention Centre
Corner of Spencer & Flinders Streets Melbourne.
All details available on the website www.cancervic.org.au

15th and 16th March 2007

Improving the Delivery of Palliative Care for Older People
Sydney Masonic Centre
66 Goulburn St, Sydney
Early bird registrations are available until 14 February 2007.
Visit <http://www.changechampions.com.au>

10th & 11th May 2007

CI-SCaT Nurse Reference Group
Cancer Institute NSW, Australia Technology Park
Visit www.cancerinstitute.org.au

May 27th - June 1st 2007

Yokohama, Japan
International Council of Nurses (ICN) conference.
Further information on the conference can be found at
www.icn.ch/Conference2007.htm

28th to 31st August 2007

9th Australian Palliative Care Conference
Melbourne Convention Centre, Victoria Australia
Palliative Care Victoria in conjunction with Palliative Care
Australia is hosting.
Further information visit the conference website
www.iceaustralia.com/apcc2007

2nd - 4th August 2007

10th CNSA Winter Congress
Grand Hyatt Hotel, Melbourne
An inaugural joint meeting with CNSA and Medical
Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA).
Further information visit www.cnsa.org.au

CNSA Executive Contact Details

<p>Gabrielle Prest CNSA CHAIRPERSON phone 0437 627 100 Email: gprest@leukaemia.org.au</p>	<p>Liz Zwart Treasurer The University of Adelaide (Adelaide) PH: 08 82222991 Email: liz.zwart@adelaide.edu.au</p>
<p>Catherine Jones The Canberra Hospital (ACT) ph (02) 6244 2738 Email: Catherine.jones@act.gov.au</p>	<p>Linda Barrett Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education (Brisbane) Ph: 07 36361449 Email: linda_barrett@health.qld.gov.au</p>
<p>Meg Rogers Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute (Melbourne) Ph: 03 96561111 page 7404 Email: megan.rogers@petermac.org</p>	<p>Megan Plaster Princess Margaret Hospital (Perth) Ph: 08 93408026 or 08 93408222 and page 8026 Email: megan.plaster@health.wa.gov.au</p>
<p>Kate Cameron Past Chairperson The Cancer Council SA Ph: 08 8291 4111 Email: kcameron@cancersa.org.au</p>	<p>Patsy Yates ISNCC representative Queensland University of Technology Ph: 07 3864 3835 Email: p.yates@qut.edu.au</p>
<p>Grants and Awards Committee Email: info@cnsa.org.au</p>	<p>Special Interest Groups (SIG) Coordinator Email: info@cnsa.org.au</p>
<p>Regional Groups Email: info@cnsa.org.au</p>	<p>CNSA News Contributions Email: maree_bransdon@health.qld.gov.au</p>

National Executive Committee meeting dates: 16th and 17th February 2007

Please raise any issues with state representative members or the national Chairperson 2 weeks before this date.