



# Annual Report

# 2006



Canadian Association  
of Schools of Nursing  
Association canadienne des  
écoles de sciences infirmières

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# Report to Council by Dr. Ellen Rukholm, CASN President



In my role as President of CASN, I have been deeply committed to furthering the goals of our association — excellence in nursing education, research and scholarship.

Looking back over the last two years, I can see that great progress has been made on many fronts. A large number of programs are now undergoing the new Accreditation process, the bulk of these are in Ontario where 14 universities and 22 colleges are involved because a baccalaureate university degree in nursing is now required as entry to practice. Criteria for the selection of reviewers and training modules for the review process have been put in place. Elements of the accreditation process have been refined and clarified by taking action on feedback from those who have been reviewed — what worked and what didn't. Work is beginning on expanding the accreditation process to the graduate level.

During the last year, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors have continued with the implementation of our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning Standing Committee has reviewed and further refined and focused activities outlined in the action component of the strategic plan. All of the task force groups and the other standing committees either have or are aligning their goals and actions with those of the CASN Strategic Plan. The volume and high quality of the products of the task forces has been inspiring – the work of faculty from our member schools is truly commendable! The Task Force on Patient Safety has completed a Position Statement on Patient Safety while the Task Force on Public Health has taken a lead role in several federal initiatives related to public health. Several of the task forces have submitted abstracts to conferences, written articles for nursing journals – all with CASN Executive pre-authorization and acknowledgement. Restructuring our organization and initiating task forces has engaged faculty drawn from our member schools across the country in meaningful endeavors to benefit CASN. Other modifications to our organizational structure include transforming the Graduate Studies Forum into a visible subcommittee of the Education Standing Committee. Our standing committees are also moving towards completion of key aspects of our Association's work.

The Executive has responded to member schools request for more opportunities for dialogue during our annual Council Meeting. Consequently, this year we will have round tables on topics that have arisen in surveys and previous council discussions that are of vital concern to our members – faculty development and renewal and clinical education. The intent is to have ample opportunity for dialogue during these sessions.

In my incoming Presidential address two years ago I promised to pursue nursing education and research issues with nursing leaders and other leaders in health care, government and industry – with the able assistance and leadership of our Executive Director and our Executive I have done so. We have and continue to work closely with leadership within the Canadian Nurses Association. The CASN Board of Directors met for the first time with the Canadian Nurses Association Board of Directors in Saskatoon Saskatchewan in June 2006 affirming our common interests and goals and desire to work closely together on issues related to nursing education.

I spoke of the need for data not only to provide the evidence needed to pressure governments and institutions – the systems that fund infrastructure for faculty and students – but also to further strengthen and advance our discipline. The establishment of the Canadian Consortium for Nursing Research and Innovation is one of the steps undertaken during the past year. I am pleased to inform you that this group has recently commissioned a synthesis paper on the current state of nursing research in Canada and outlining steps to build capacity in nursing research. Even though we now have access to research funding opportunities and to research fellowships and chairs, we need to expand our research funding opportunities to include discipline-specific knowledge and nursing education knowledge.

# Report to Council by Dr. Ellen Rukholm, CASN President

I said that one of our challenges is that at the same time that research and scholarship and academic leadership opportunities become more available, the professoriate is aging and many of our young faculty are not yet ready to assume these research chair, faculty educator, or nursing administrative leadership roles. There is a gap between the number of faculty (researchers, educators and administrators) being produced and the research, education and practice opportunities. As well, there needs to be increased infrastructure support for nursing education, research and scholarship — faculty retention and renewal, student retention, and strengthened links between education and clinical practice (acute, long-term, home care, and community). Nursing education lacks the infrastructure (physical space — classroom, laboratory and research; administrative — secretarial; and equipment/ technology) needed to meet the challenges of producing more nurses to address the nursing shortages now and in the imminent future. The challenge is to gather the valid and reliable data needed to lobby governments and institutions systematically, strategically and collaboratively with nursing leaders from the other sectors to fund our education and research infrastructure needs. As a praxis-based profession, we cannot exist without those who are able to integrate research and theory into practice. CASN is in the process of meeting the challenge of gathering this data. CASN contracted teams of researchers last spring within our member schools and they are completing a set of research studies around these nursing education issues. Researchers are working with national office staff on these projects. Will our arguments for infrastructure support need to be reframed to clearly illustrate benefit for other professions and disciplines and ultimately for the greater good of the public?

With regard to challenges that we face with regard to leadership CASN is also moving proactively. In response to the need for academic leadership renewal, Ontario has put forward a request to host a leadership conference – it has been decided to support this request and to incorporate leadership into the cycle of conferences held annually across the country. The emphasis will be on academic leadership quite different from the jointly sponsored Canadian Nurses Association Leadership conference.

In response to the need for cultural diversity and accessibility of nursing education as your president I participated in the strategic planning sessions held by the First Nations Inuit Health Branch last fall. As well, our Executive Director has been working closing with the Aboriginal Nurses Association and FNIHB to look at education needs and develop a fundable plan.

Another challenge for nursing education that is related to the nursing shortage in our country is the worldwide nursing shortage and the global demand for common nursing credentials. As your president I participated in a meeting of nursing education leaders from Britain, the United States, Australia and New Zealand in London, England in December 2005 to discuss these and other nursing education issues. At that time the Global Alliance for Nursing Education was established. There continues to be pressure at the global level from WHO to have health care workers with common credentials. What will those common credentials entail? Will the baccalaureate as entry to practice stance prevail?

A new federal government has meant delays and changes in funding patterns so funding for several CASN projects remains uncertain. Even though anticipated government funds for projects did not materialize the diligence and determination of the Executive, the Executive Director, Director of Corporate Services and our Treasurer has allowed us to manage our finances, safeguard our investments and develop the plan we will be discussing later in the meeting.

This year ends my term as President of CASN. I want to express my thanks to each of you for your faith in and support of my role. A very special thank you to the Director of Accreditation, Jane Winder, the Director of Corporate Services, Jo-Anne Swanson, and our Executive Director, Pat Griffin – without their able support CASN would be like a ship without a rudder.

**Ellen Rukholm Outgoing President**

## Report to Council by Dr. Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director



It is hard to imagine that a whole year has passed since I presented my first report to you. Much has happened during this past year, and I hope to summarize the highlights for you in this, my second, report.

### **Standing Committees and Task Forces**

A large portion of our work is conducted through our structure of standing committees and task forces, all of which receive support from National Office staff. With the addition of four new task forces at last year's council meeting, we now have six standing committees and eleven task forces. We continue to focus our work as directed by our strategic plan. The Standing Committee on Strategic Planning reviews our progress, and ensures that the plan remains relevant in today's context. Currently, the strategic plans of four of the task forces are being merged into the overall plan.

Although you will find the annual reports from each of the committees and task forces elsewhere in this document, I would like to point out that these working groups have been enjoying increased visibility and recognition. For example, the Public Health Agency of Canada, which continues to generously support our Task Force on Public Health, has commented on its energy, knowledge and enthusiasm, and its accomplishment of an impressive amount of work. The Canadian Patient Safety Institute was very interested to learn of the activities of our Task Force on Patient Safety, and has been eager to collaborate on a survey and other potential initiatives. Phil Hassen, CEO, and Carolyn Hoffman, Director of Operations, attended our June Board of Directors meeting, and reinforced their support. The Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative (CNPI) Executive Director, Marian Knock, wanted us to know how appreciative she was of the members of CASN's Task Force on Nurse Practitioners who also sat on CNPI's Task Force, and how collaborative and knowledgeable she felt our task force members were.

In addition, the Palliative Care Secretariat at Health Canada is funding a project, under the direction of our Palliative and End-of-Life Care Task Force. This project will develop and conduct a survey of member schools to identify the current status of nursing education with regard to palliative care and will plan and host an invitational symposium to achieve consensus on identified competencies. In addition, you will learn first hand during a plenary planned for this council meeting about the work of the Task Force on Clinical Education. The position statement developed by this task force is now being reviewed by the Canadian Nurses Association, and will hopefully be disseminated as a joint position statement.

Naturally, I can only mention a few of these groups here due to space limitations, but I can assure you that a significant amount of very diligent work is being accomplished through all our volunteer chairs and members. It is wonderful to hear feedback on how CASN's work is being recognized and appreciated from our colleagues across the country. This is one of the very best ways of elevating CASN's profile.

### **Accreditation Program**

Another way we have been elevating CASN's profile is through profiling CASN's programs – in particular our accreditation program. This year has again been very busy for the program, including the piloting of the 2005 standards, eight accreditation reviews involving 18 schools and 19 programs, and two very successful reviewer orientation sessions (June and September). In addition, the name of the Board of Accreditation has been changed to the Accreditation Bureau, membership on the Bureau has been revised to reflect its arms-length status from the Board of Directors, the appeal process has been modified, and a number of policies and processes have been reviewed and revised to ensure the continued relevance and appropriateness of the program. An invited presentation on accreditation was made to the CEGEPs in June, and it is anticipated that another presentation will be made to both the CEGEPs and the Quebec universities. Negotiations with the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia (CRNNS) to merge their approval process with our accreditation process are almost complete, and we have received expressions of interest from the western provinces regarding the feasibility of developing similar agreements.

# Report to Council by Dr. Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director

Future plans for accreditation involve the development of an accreditation program for graduate programs, including nurse practitioner programs. Moreover, in response to a growing number of requests from other countries (e.g. Kuwait, Russia, and Saudi Arabia to name a few) for international accreditation, we are engaged in preliminary discussions with Human Resources and Skills Development of Canada (HRSDC) to investigate the feasibility of expanding the program to other countries.

## **Conferences**

CASN provides a national forum for issues in nursing education and research through our annual conferences. Typically we alternate an education conference with a research conference. This year we have had a request, from COUPN, for a new focus for a conference – that of academic leadership. As a result, we will co-host the first conference on this topic in Ontario in 2008. We will also be moving our annual conference to the spring of each year, rather than holding it at the same time as the Council Meeting.

## **Clinical Placement Projects**

As indicated last year, CASN has commissioned three projects on clinical placements with funding received from Health Canada. These projects are (i) an inventory of strategies to deliver nursing and inter-professional clinical placements in Canada; (ii) costing nursing clinical placements in Canada; and (iii) an inventory of the use of simulated clinical learning experiences and the evaluation of their effectiveness. At the plenary during this council meeting, we will hear some preliminary findings from these three exciting studies.

## **Representation and Advocacy**

The federal health minister, Tony Clement, will be meeting with representatives from the major national nursing organizations on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The need to expand nursing education and nursing research capacity are central to the issues that will be discussed.

CASN is also increasingly represented on national external committees, working groups, and stakeholder consultations. We continue to be a voting member of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and a member of the Task Force on Internationally Educated Nurses, which is co-chaired by the Office of Nursing Policy at Health Canada and HRSDC. CASN is represented on the nurse advisory group of Canada's Health Infoway, and the Healthy Work Environment Best Practice Guidelines Project of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario and Health Canada. We are a sponsor of the Nursing Leadership Conference along with the Academy of Canadian Executive Nurses (ACEN), the Canadian College of Health Service Executives (CCHSE), the Canadian Healthcare Association (CHA), the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA), and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) and will be co-hosting the conference to be held in Ottawa in February 2007. In addition, CASN was invited to and has participated in the National Conference on Physician Human Resource Planning in January, the Health Council release of its *Second Annual Report to Canadians* in February, the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF) Nursing Network Day in March, the Canadian Institute for Health Information consultation on national unique identifiers in March, the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Workshop in May, the CHSRF Nursing Priority Setting Follow-up Day in September, the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of Health Canada Nursing Forum in October, and the federal/provincial/territorial Advisory Committee on Health Delivery and Human Resources (ACHDHR) Pan-Canadian Health Human Resources Planning Framework Consultation Workshop in October. And finally, as a member of the Nursing Sector Study, CASN was able to have ten representatives attend the Building the Future invitational conference in early May. This conference was the culmination of the first national nursing study to be endorsed and led by all major nursing stakeholder groups in Canada. As the recommendations arising from the study were discussed, it was very gratifying to hear many of stakeholders who believe that CASN should be taking a lead role on a number of the initiatives.

## Report to Council by Dr. Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director

CASN continues to build a strong relationship with our colleagues at the Canadian Nurses Association. Our Boards of Directors met together in Saskatoon in June, just prior to the CNA biennium. Staff from both organizations presented on our joint database – the Student Faculty Database – and demonstrated how the information can be useful for decision makers during policy deliberations. The database continues to be refined, and the data continues to become more sophisticated. Both Boards felt the meeting was a success, and have suggested that we continue to meet in the future.

The Canadian Nursing Student Association (CNSA) remains an important collaborator for CASN. We continue to have reciprocal representation on our Boards of Directors, and the President of CNSA, Michael Garreau, also sits on our Strategic Planning Standing Committee as a co-chair. In addition, one of our Board members, Brenda Jacono, attended the CNSA annual meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, in January and presented on the history of nursing education, as part of a panel presentation.

As one of the founding members of the Canadian Consortium for Nursing Research and Innovation, CASN continues to advocate for nursing research and for funding for nursing research. Marianne Lamb, as the Visiting Nurse Scholar, and I, as the Chair of the provisional Board of the Consortium, have been successful in securing \$50,000 for an analysis of the current state of nursing research in Canada through the development of a framework for building nursing research capacity. Dr. Mary Ellen Jeans has been commissioned to conduct this study, which will be completed by November 2007.

At CASN National Office, we continue to be very concerned with maintaining open communications with our member schools and faculty. We continually search for ways to ensure that we keep members up-to-date, and have instituted *The President's and ED's Corner* in our monthly newsletter. We also try to liaise with our affiliates as often as possible. I was able to attend the WRCASN annual meeting in Edmonton in February, and our Treasurer, Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler, attended the ARCASN meeting in Moncton in May. The President, Ellen Rukholm, and I have met with the regional presidents and COUPN and CAATS by teleconference. We were also invited to visit Thompson Rivers University, and the Nursing Education Council of British Columbia (NECBC) in March. We thoroughly enjoyed our visits, learned a lot from our colleagues and look forward to meeting them again. We would be very interested in hearing your suggestions on how we can maintain and enhance our dialogue with you.

One of the suggestions you did make to us at last year's Council meeting was that you would prefer less time spent on the presentation of reports, and more time on discussions of topics of current interest. So we listened, and have altered the format of this year's Council meeting somewhat. We will not have any concurrent sessions this year, and will have, instead, two plenary sessions. The first will be devoted to nursing faculty development, and the second to clinical placements, since it is our understanding that these two issues constitute the largest challenges to nursing education at present. Please take the time to evaluate these sessions, so we can know if we are providing you with the type of activity that is useful to you.

### **International Role**

Internationally, CASN remains a full member of GANE – the Global Alliance for Nursing Education. As reported last year, this is a new organization which has been created to improve patient care through nursing education and to ensure a robust global supply of highly educated nurses. The first formal meeting was held in London, England in December 2005, and was attended by Ellen Rukholm, President, and Lynnette Leeseburg Stamler, Treasurer. A second meeting was held in Washington, D.C. in July, and was attended by Lise Talbot, Vice-President, and Carole Orchard, our past President. The group, to date, has worked on its mission, goals and proposed activities. A memorandum of understanding is being developed, and potential members and relationships with ICN are being explored.

# Report to Council by Dr. Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director

Also at the international level, CASN has been invited to a Consensus Meeting on Global Standards for Basic Nursing and Basic Midwifery Education to be held in December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting is being convened by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), and it is anticipated that critical program elements for nursing education will be determined.

## **Visiting Professorship**

CASN received a request for a visiting professorship to a medical center in West China. Dr. Robert Kilborn, who initiated the request and who heads the Kilborn Memorial Fund, works with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (Canada) in developing a medical teaching program. This was the first request for a nurse to visit, and we were able to facilitate this endeavour by establishing a selection process. We had a number of very qualified and knowledgeable individuals apply from across the country. The successful applicant is Carole Orchard, and we wish her well on her visit.

## **Future Plans**

We have many plans for the coming year which include following through on the education-related recommendations of the Nursing Sector Study and the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative. We also hope to partner with the Canadian Nurses Association and the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada to explore strategies to increase the number of Aboriginal nursing students and faculty. These plans are dependent on securing the required resources in an environment of increased fiscal restraint. However, we are hopeful and persistent.

I believe we are on track with accomplishing the directives outlined in our strategic plan, and we are eager to face another year of working to advance the nursing education, scholarship and research agenda. But this could not happen without the vision, diligence, hard work and courage of our President, Ellen Rukholm, our Executive Committee and our Board of Directors. The chairs and members of our standing committees and task forces make an outstanding contribution to CASN, and continually ensure that our work is relevant. The Accreditation Bureau and our accreditation reviewers perform a wonderful and exhausting service to enhance our contribution to excellence in nursing education in Canada. And our National Office staff, often depleted through resignations and illnesses, continues to give 150% to our mutual efforts. Jane Winder and her associate Sarah Anderson keep our accreditation program moving ever forward while Jo-Anne Swanson, Mel Forget and Therese Chartrand look after virtually everything else. We are small indeed – but mighty! To all of you I say “Thank you” – and I look forward to realizing what we will all accomplish this coming year. Our achievements are only limited by our imaginations.

# CASN Board of Directors

## Executive Committee:

- ➔ President  
Ellen Rukholm  
Professor, School of Nursing  
Laurentian University
- ➔ Treasurer  
Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler  
Associate Professor  
University of Saskatchewan
- ➔ President-elect  
Lise Talbot  
Vice-doyenne aux sciences de la santé  
Université de Sherbrooke

## Directors - Western Schools

- ➔ David Gregory  
Professor, School of Health Sciences  
University of Lethbridge
- ➔ Nancy Goddard  
Nursing Instructor  
Red Deer College
- ➔ Marjorie McIntyre  
Associate Professor  
University of Victoria

## Directors - Ontario Schools

- ➔ Elaine Duffy  
Dean, Faculty of Nursing  
University of Windsor
- ➔ Barbara Foulds  
Chair, Nursing Studies  
Algonquin College
- ➔ Cynthia Baker  
Director, School of Nursing  
Queen's University

## Directors - Quebec Schools

- ➔ Jacinthe Pépin  
Faculté des sciences infirmières  
Université de Montréal

## Directors - Atlantic Schools

- ➔ Evelyn Kennedy  
Assistant Professor  
St. Francis Xavier -Cape Breton University
- ➔ Brenda Jacono  
Associate Professor, Nursing  
Cape Breton University

## Public Representative

- ➔ Kathryn Munn  
Mediator  
Munn Conflict Resolution Services

## Student Representative

- ➔ Michael Garreau  
President  
Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA)

## Accreditation Bureau Chair

- ➔ Manon Lemonde  
Associate Professor  
University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)

# Canadian Nursing Students' Association



## **Background:**

- The Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA) is the voice of nursing students in Canada. For over thirty years, CNSA has represented the interests of nursing students to federal and provincial governments and other nursing organizations.
- The CNSA, with over 15,000 members, is an affiliate member of the Canadian Nurses Association, and has a close working relationship with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing.
- The Board of Directors of the association is elected yearly in January for a term from April 1<sup>st</sup> until March 31<sup>st</sup>. Each local chapter holds election in accordance to their governing documents.

## **Action Taken:**

- National External Stakeholders Survey to be released January 2007
- Research
  - PDA/Technology
  - Public/Community Health
  - Leadership and Career Development
    - Donner Wheeler Workshop Program
    - Nurses 4 Canada
    - Pan Canadian Nursing Education Leadership Development Initiative
    - New Graduate Transition Initiatives - Internships/Externships
    - Nursing U
      - Local school research days
      - Local student projects
      - Student Leadership academic credit
      - Nursing Portal
    - Nursing Games/Olympiads
    - Diversity (Aboriginal; Francophone nurses; Men in nursing)
- New Awards development (Associate groups of the Canadian Nurses Association; Corporate sponsors - National scope)
- National Student Nurses Day – March 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 (to be confirmed)
- New Health Professionals Network (Healthcare Delivery and Funding; Inter/Intra professional Education)
- Website/Membership Process Revision (Student membership in the Canadian Nurses Association)
- Governing Documents review (Code of Conduct; Banner Policy; Communication Policy)
- International Nursing Student Association (Student Network of the International Council of Nurses)

# Canadian Nursing Students' Association

## **Next Steps:**

CASN Council Endorsement for the following:

- o Conference Time = Clinical Time
- o CNSA Membership Fees revision
- o Career & Leadership Development Program
- o Clinical Placements Benchmark Research

CNSA Conference promotion

- o Conference Time = Clinical Time
- o Regional and National Conferences

**Chair:** Michael Garreau, Lakehead University/Confederation College

## **Board of Directors Members:**

### **President/Président:**

Michael Garreau (Lakehead University/Confederation College)

### **Vice President Inter/Intra Professional Education and Research / Vice-présidente éducation inter/intra-professionnelle et recherche:**

Colleen Ferris (University of Ottawa)

### **Director of Communications/ Directrice des communications:**

Heather Burke (North Eastern Ontario Collaborative Nursing Program-Sault College)

### **Resource Officer/ Administrateur des ressources:**

Aric Rankin, RN, BScN (Windsor University Alumni)

### **Director of Publications and Promotions/ Directeur des publications et de la promotion:**

Keith Lau (University of New Brunswick/Humber ITAL)

### **Directrice du bilinguisme et de la traduction /Director of Bilingualism and Translation:**

Tina Aubé (McGill University)

### **National Conference Director/ Directrice du congrés national:**

Alexandra A. Jurczak (Ryerson University)

### **Atlantic Regional Director/ Directrice régionale de l'Atlantique:**

Jaclyn DesRoches (University of Prince Edward Island)

### **Directrice régionale du Québec/ Quebec Regional Director:**

Nancy Simard (McGill University)

### **Ontario Regional Director/ Directrice régionale de l'Ontario:**

Jodie Boltuc (Ryerson University)

### **Prairies Regional Director/ Directeur région des Prairies:**

Logan Chinski (SIAS-T-Kelsey Campus)

### **Western Regional Director/ Directeur région de l'Ouest:**

Vacant

# Affiliate Members

## ARCASN



### **Mandate:**

The purpose of the regional association is to provide an organized body to promote the advancement of nursing education in Atlantic Canadian Schools of Nursing and to cooperate with the other regions in meeting the objectives of CASN. Any Atlantic School of Nursing faculty member whose institution is a member of CASN may be a member upon payment of the current fee of \$35.00. ARCASN is governed by a constitution, bylaws and has a strategic plan. Members presently are elected for a 2 year term of office and all schools offering nursing education are

represented on the executive. Two standing committees exist, the Education Committee and the Research Committee.

### **Update:**

The ARCASN Annual General Meeting took place in Moncton, NB on May 25, 2006.

Guest speaker Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler, Treasurer of CASN, brought greetings and gave an update on the activities of CASN on behalf of the Executive Director.

The strategic plan had been revised over the past year and was presented to the membership for approval. Suggestions were made to amend and further revise the plan.

The following awards were presented at the AGM.

***Honorary Membership Award:*** Sylvia Porier

### ***Education Innovation Awards:***

Suzanne Harrison, Associate Professor, University of Moncton.

Project: *Integration of portfolio use in a baccalaureate nursing program.*

Margaret Ann Kennedy, Assistant Professor, St. FX University.

Project: *Promoting information and media literacy among nursing students.*

### ***Research SEED Grant Awards:***

Dr. Tracy Carr and Sandee Hicks-Moore, UNBSJ.

Project: *Discovering meaning without memory: exploring the meaning of spiritual care in dementia.*

Dr. Judith McFetridge-Durdle, Dalhousie University.

Project: *A controlled study of autonomic response in individuals with multiple chemical sensitivity.* Partners from the NS Environmental Health Center Tara Sampalli, Heather Livingston and Dr. Roy Fox.

Over the past few months ARCASN has posted a website and we invite all members to visit it at <http://www.arcasn.ca>. We will be collecting dues this fall from all members. Some of this money is used to offset the cost of developing and maintaining the site. Please feel free to suggest anything you would like to see added to the site to improve its usefulness to members. The website will host calls for abstracts, awards, membership news, and much more. We have considered posting employment opportunities there as well.

In an effort to promote a stronger connection to the Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA), I have been asked by their Atlantic Director to speak at the opening of their Atlantic Conference in PEI. In an effort to contain travel costs our ARCASN UPEI school representative, Rosemary McDonald, has agreed to speak on behalf of ARCASN at this conference.

## Affiliate Members ARCASN

The ARCASN President now serves as a CASN Board Member allowing for a better regional understanding of issues at a national level.

The fall meeting of ARCASN Executive was held on September 29<sup>th</sup> at Memorial University in Newfoundland in conjunction with that university's Nursing Research Conference.

The suggestions for further revision to the strategic plan were reviewed at this meeting. A further review of CASN's strategic plan was part of the discussion. The plan has been referred back to the original Ad Hoc committee for further review.

A committee to review the constitution was struck at the meeting. It was last revised in April of 2004.

**President:** Evelyn Kennedy

**President Elect:** Danielle Charron

**Secretary:** Sandee Hicks-Moore

**Treasurer:** Stella Doucet

I assumed the position of president of ARCASN at the annual ARCASN conference in Moncton in May of 2006. I am looking forward to the upcoming months as I serve in this capacity. I have enjoyed the experience of working first as an ARCASN school representative, then as president elect and now as president. I will take every opportunity to encourage all members to consider more involvement in the Atlantic Association and in CASN whether as a school representative, an officer, or by serving on a committee. The experience is valuable and provides tremendous opportunity to exchange ideas and network with wonderful colleagues from all over our region and country. Often our concerns and issues are similar and we have much to learn from each other by sharing ideas and lessons learned. ARCASN executive is committed to following CASN's lead by becoming more visible and vocal on issues related to nursing both regionally and nationally.

Evelyn Kennedy  
President ARCASN

# Affiliate Members QRCASN



## **Mandat:**

Veiller à la qualité de la formation universitaire en sciences infirmières au Québec dans le respect des critères définis par l'ACÉSI; promouvoir le développement de la recherche en sciences infirmières; informer le public de la contribution de la formation et la recherche en sciences infirmières à l'amélioration de la santé; faire connaître le point de vue de l'ACÉSI et établir des liens avec d'autres associations professionnelles ou scientifiques, les niveaux de gouvernement et toute autre instance; représenter la région du Québec à l'ACÉSI.

Pour répondre à son mandat, l'ACÉSI, région du Québec, a un conseil d'administration formé des doyennes et directrices et d'un ou deux professeurs représentants des neuf établissements d'enseignement universitaire. L'ACÉSI-RQ a créé trois Forums de concertation :

- Forum des doyennes et directrices (DD), présidé par Céline Goulet, U. de Montréal (2006- )
- Forum de la pratique avancée (PA), présidence à déterminer
- Forum de la formation infirmière intégrée (FII), présidé par Michèle Côté, UQTR (2005- )

## **Activités réalisées:**

- Le Forum des DD, avec la Table de concertation de la CREPUQ, a obtenu du MELS 12 bourses pour les jeunes membres du corps professoral encore en formation doctorale et 20 bourses de 2<sup>e</sup> cycle pour l'année en cours. Ce Forum a aussi obtenu des montants forfaitaires pour l'encadrement des stages universitaires en milieu clinique ;
- L'ACÉSI-RQ a transmis un avis à l'OIIQ situant la formation des infirmières spécialistes au 2<sup>e</sup> cycle universitaire et positionnant l'ACÉSI comme un partenaire essentiel dans la détermination des domaines de spécialisation et du diplôme à décerner;
- Le Forum PA examine le partage des ressources pour la création et à la mise en œuvre des nouveaux programmes de spécialistes ;
- Le Forum FII a tenu une journée de concertation qui a permis de dresser un bilan des cursus intégrés de formation. Un partage des grilles d'évaluation du cursus est en cours ;
- L'ACÉSI-RQ a parrainé un Colloque d'une journée sur le leadership et le savoir des gestionnaires dans le cadre de l'ACFAS en mai 2005.

## **Activités à réaliser en 2006-2007:**

- Étudier les défis et les enjeux de la formation universitaire dans le contexte de la main d'œuvre infirmière au Québec et tenir une journée d'étude sur cette question;
- Examiner la structure de l'ACÉSI-RQ en lien avec la nouvelle structure nationale et des partenariats à établir ;
- Assurer via le Forum des DD le suivi des demandes de financement pour les nouveaux programmes d'infirmières spécialistes et d'infirmières praticiennes ;
- Identifier, via le Forum FII, des stratégies de renforcement du caractère intégré du cursus intégré de formation.

**Présidente:** Jacinthe Pepin, Université de Montréal

## **Membres de l'exécutif 2006-2007:**

Marcia Beaulieu, trésorière, McGill University  
Luc Mathieu, secrétaire, Université de Sherbrooke  
Diane Morin, conseillère, Université Laval  
Chantal St-Pierre, conseillère, représentante de l'Université du Québec

# Affiliate Members

## COUPN



### Updates:

- The Ontario Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (PHCNP) program is moving to the masters level pending Ontario Council Graduate Studies approval - the 10 consortium member schools who currently offer the program at the post baccalaureate level have been working together to ensure that the program represents masters level competencies and external reviews of a number of the programs have begun. While it is accepted within nursing, generally across the country and US, that PHCNP is advanced practice requiring masters level preparation, we are having to go through the Federal Credentialing process, which we will do iteratively as we continue planning for a 2007 move from certificate to masters level.
- Ontario's regulatory body has recognized the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP) as an advanced practice role that prepares ACNP's to write the RN(EC) - extended class exam. Previously, only PHCNP's were eligible for this class. Nurse Anesthetists have also been recognized as an extended class by the College of Nurses of Ontario, a designation supported by the Ontario Peri-Anesthetic Nurses Association.
- COUPN is working with our partners from Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATS) to better recognize the voice of nursing education that spans Registered Practical Nurse (RPN) through to doctoral education for nurses. To this end, we have re-structured the COUPN/CAATS connection (developed an executive committee) to represent and provide a vehicle for gathering information/input from both our constituent groups related to our overlapping interests i.e. collaborative baccalaureate programming and RPN to BScN programming). In addition, we have proposed a structure, similar to that of regional CASN associations, to provide a voice for faculty. There was, pre-COUPN and some years ago, an Ontario Region CASN, structured similarly to other CASN regions but when the Council of Ontario Universities was created, so was COUPN for various and quite appropriate reasons. However, we acknowledge that under the current structure of COUPN and CAATS, faculty across the board don't have accessible vehicles for exchange of ideas, professional development, etc. This restructuring is in its infancy but is exciting.
- Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) and Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities (MTCU) have launched a number of initiatives to support nursing education to the tune of many million dollars (eg. simulation equipment funding rolled out amongst all Ontario schools of nursing; summer externship program; provincial data base project for student placements; tuition assistance for faculty pursuing nursing masters and doctoral programming). The government has also supported, for example, growth in nursing graduate programming (there are 2 new masters level programs in the province this year, for example); second entry programming implementation; support of 3 pilot projects - currently in progress and under evaluation - of RPN to BScN programming.
- COUPN is considering developing an award process to recognize excellence in a wide range of activities (e.g. contribution, leadership, etc.). Thank you to WRCASN (Linda) for sharing your ideas with us.
- COUPN is absolutely delighted that CASN has approved the inclusion of a leadership conference in the CASN-supported conference rotation schedule, and that the first such conference - focusing on academic nursing leadership - has received approval to be held in Toronto in 2008. COUPN was moved by Dr. Sue French's words (at last year's awards ceremony) that spoke to the need to develop academic nursing leadership, at all levels, to best position nursing education for the future.

# Affiliate Members WRCASN



## **Mandate:**

Western Region CASN is a regional organization of individual members of CASN-affiliated schools of nursing in Western Canada. Membership is comprised of deans, directors, faculty members, graduate students, and affiliated faculty of CASN member schools. Each school of nursing elects/selects a Member-at-Large (MAL) who becomes the communication person for WRCASN. An executive committee is comprised of President, Past-President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and 4-6 MALs to ensure two representatives from each of the four western provinces on the executive. Current President, Linda Ferguson and Secretary-Treasurer, Mary MacDonald, will hold office for two years (2006-2008). President and Secretary Treasurer positions move among member schools on a pre-set rotational basis.

## **Update:**

A major initiative of WRCASN is an annual Nurse Educators Conference and Annual meeting held in February of each year. The 2007 conference will be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on **February 15-17**, sponsored by the University of Saskatchewan on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the university, co-sponsored by the Nursing Division of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) and the First Nations University of Canada. The theme for the conference will be **Shaping Nursing Education: Practitioners of the Future.**

We are also in the process of accepting applications for the WRCASN Nursing Education Research Award and the WRCASN Teaching Innovation Award, each worth \$2500 toward the project.

Our focus this year is on developing our communication network among the member schools in WRCASN and encouraging debate on nursing education issues in Canada.

**President:** Linda Ferguson, University of Saskatchewan

## **Executive Committee Members:**

Mary MacDonald, Secretary-Treasurer, University of Saskatchewan

Shirley King, Mount Royal College

Elaine McKiel, University of Calgary

Cheryl Zawaduk, Thompson Rivers University

Cindy Nordick, University College of the North

Wendy Hall, University of British Columbia

# Accreditation Bureau



## **Background:**

The **Accreditation Bureau** is a Standing Committee of CASN, functions within the established CASN policy and guidelines, and is the decision-making body regarding CASN accreditation status.

## **Terms of reference:**

1. The evaluation of a baccalaureate or graduate program in nursing and the accreditation decision granted is the responsibility of the Accreditation Bureau.
2. A simple majority constitutes a quorum for decisions by the Accreditation Bureau.
3. The members of the Accreditation Bureau serve and vote as

individuals and not as representatives of their home institution.

Accreditation decisions are reported twice yearly by the Accreditation Bureau to the CASN Board of Directors and are reported annually to CASN Council.

## **Membership:**

The Accreditation Bureau consists of ten members:

- Five members, with full-time faculty positions in CASN member schools, elected by CASN Council;
- One representative of a service agency nominated by the Canadian Nurses Association;
- One academic representative nominated by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada;
- One community representative selected by CASN Executive Committee;
- One non-voting regulatory body representative selected by CASN Executive Committee;
- One consumer (student/graduate) representative, nominated by CASN member schools, and appointed by CASN Executive Committee;
- The CASN President and Executive Director are non voting ex officio members of the Accreditation Bureau;
- The Chair is elected each year; any voting member may be nominated to stand for election as the Chairperson; the Chairperson is elected by the members who hold full time faculty appointments with a CASN member school;
- The Accreditation Bureau Chair is an ex officio member of the CASN Board of Directors;
- Nurse faculty members must be currently involved in baccalaureate or graduate programs in nursing, have a minimum education of a Master's degree in nursing or equivalent degree, and five years' teaching experience in a baccalaureate or graduate program in nursing;
- No member of CASN Council shall be appointed to the Accreditation Bureau;
- Accreditation Bureau members sign commitment forms and comply with CASN Conflict of Interest Guidelines, May 2004;
- At least three members of the Accreditation Bureau shall be able to read documents in both French and English;
- Members should have experience/knowledge of standards and quality improvement; and,
- Management support is provided by the Director of Accreditation and Program Officer.

## **Action Taken:**

### **Accreditation reviews:**

In winter 2006, four schools and five programs underwent accreditation reviews using the 2005 CASN Accreditation Program. In fall 2006, ten schools and eleven programs underwent accreditation reviews using the 2005 Program, while two other reviews involving four schools and three programs chose to use the 1995 CASN Accreditation Program for their accreditation reviews. The Accreditation Bureau members were assigned to read school's submitted self-studies. The Accreditation Bureau determines an accreditation recognition decision for each school of nursing and for each nursing education program reviewed.

# Accreditation Bureau

## **Accreditation Bureau Meetings:**

Two face to face meetings were held: November 2005 in Montreal and April 2006 in Toronto. In April, the Accreditation Bureau met with the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, with whom CASN has a Mutual Recognition Agreement on Accreditation. Four Accreditation Bureau teleconferences were held: December 12, 2005; March 10, 2006; May 08, 2006 and August 30, 2006.

## **Other Meetings:**

The Accreditation Bureau Chair participated in the scheduled 2006 CASN Board of Director meetings. On June 29, 2006, Accreditation Bureau members met by teleconference with the Pilot Test Advisory Committee to discuss evaluations received regarding the pilot testing of the 2005 Accreditation Program which occurred in winter 2006. The evaluation process is ongoing. In June 2006, the Accreditation Bureau made policy recommendations for consideration and approval by the CASN Board of Directors: these policies address the areas of appeal of accreditation decisions, extending recognition decisions, application for accreditation timeframes and undertaking tandem or integrated reviews.

## **Reviewer Orientations:**

Three face to face reviewer orientations were held: in November 2005, sixteen CASN reviewers and nine Accreditation Bureau members participated; in June 2006, nine new CASN reviewers and three Accreditation Bureau members participated; and, in September, seven new reviewers and three Accreditation Bureau members participated.

## **Next Steps:**

An October 2006 teleconference is being arranged. A December 2006 teleconference is anticipated. Winter 2007 face to face meetings will be required to undertake discussions regarding fall 2006 accreditation review decisions.

**2006 Chair:** Manon Lemonde, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Ontario

## **Committee Members:**

Madeleine Buck, McGill University, Quebec  
Ann Fisk, Red Deer College, Alberta  
Anita Pelletier, Université Laurentienne, Ontario  
Velma Jacobs, Centre for Nursing Studies, Newfoundland Labrador  
Liz Taylor, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Alberta  
Kathie Conlin-Saindon, College of Nurses of Ontario, Ontario  
Cathy Walls, Canadian Nurses Association, Nova Scotia  
Floyd Spracklin, community representative, Newfoundland Labrador  
Laurie Barkun, student/graduate representative, Quebec  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Standing Committee on Awards and Nominations



## **Background:**

The mandate of this standing committee is to issue the call for nominations; prepare the nominations for election; report to Council on the results of the election process; initiate nominations for national and international awards and present recommendations to the Board of Directors; and to report to the Board of Directors annually.

## **Action Taken:**

On behalf of the committee, staff sent out the call for nominations and compiled these. The committee members consulted and informed members of their respective regions about the process, and recruited members to run for office. The committee held a teleconference to review the nominations received, and to prepare the slate of candidates in conformity with CASN bylaws.

The committee also reviewed nominations for the annual awards and is recommending changes to the criteria for consideration by the CASN Board of Directors.

## **Next Steps:**

Elections will be held on Wednesday, November 15th, 2006. The Slate of Nominations is included in participants' Council kit, as well as information about each nominee running for office.

The Chief Electoral Officer and three scrutineers will run the elections.

**Chair:** Céline Goulet, Chief Electoral Officer

## **Committee Members:**

Édith Côté, QRCASN Representative  
Kileen Tucker Scott, COUPN Representative  
Brenda Patton, WRCASN Representative  
Corinne McIsaac, ARCASN Representative  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)  
Jo-Anne Swanson, Staff Liaison (ex-officio)

# Standing Committee on Databases



## **Background:**

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Databases is to guide the acquisition of data to support (i) the promotion of the advancement of nursing knowledge; (ii) public policy; and (iii) a national forum for issues in nursing education and research. Since the need for current, comprehensive and accurate data is an ongoing issue, it was decided at the November 2005 Council meeting that the previously struck Task Force on Databases would become the Standing Committee on Databases, with the following terms of reference:

- To provide advice on the collection of information and development of data retrieval systems that provide data sets necessary to present a nation-wide, consistent perspective relative to nursing education and research.
  - To develop a set of policies to guide the access and dissemination of CASN database content with members of the nursing community, government agencies, researchers, media, public, etc.
- To assist in raising the profile of CASN database collections among CASN members and with potential partners.
  - To participate in a cost/benefit review of ad hoc collection requests and develop a business plan.
  - To determine and recommend to the Board, annual and ad hoc data collections.
  - To provide advice, as required, on CASN's response to national proposals relating to, or with potential to affect, nursing education and nursing research.
  - To support the work of CASN standing committees and task forces.
  - To contribute to the work of the Canadian Consortium for Nursing Research and Innovation.
  - To report to the Board of Directors and Council meeting annually.

This committee will take the following into consideration when developing policies and/or providing advice:

Databases and policies reflect the needs of CASN members.

Survey schedules, processes, tools and methodologies support the timely collection of data while respecting the time demands of CASN members.

CASN has access to the technical infrastructure needed to support the various data sets, with adequate internal and/or external funding.

Dissemination of database information will be to members on a priority basis.

Policies will be developed within a framework that addresses CASN'S investment and ensures cost recovery.

The term of office for this committee is two (2) years.

## **Action Taken:**

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006, Kathe Macdonald, Pat Griffin and Dina Idriss (from CASN) conducted a face-to-face meeting with Janet Davies, Lisa Little and Nancy Field (CNA) regarding the CNA-CASN Student Faculty Database. This meeting was followed-up with a teleconference to complete the work undertaken by the group. This work involved an extensive review of the data elements included in the database, clarification of these elements where required, a review of the reports generated, and suggestions for future reports where feasible.

In June, 2006, a combined meeting of the CNA and CASN Boards of Directors was held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. During this meeting, highlights of the Student Faculty Database were presented to the Boards, as examples of how decision makers may use the data. Discussion ensued which involved Deb Tamlyn, Janet Davies, Lisa Little and Nancy Field (CNA) and Ellen Rukholm and Pat Griffin (CASN). The information was very well received, and a number of very helpful suggestions were made for additional uses of the data. We are committed to continued collaboration on this database.

# Standing Committee on Databases

## **Next Steps:**

CASN National Office is currently exploring the capacity of a new information technology system. This will involve the following work on the part of the Standing Committee:

- an overall review of what data is appropriate for CASN to collect and maintain, for what purpose, and for what audience.
- a review of the existing nursing program database, its elements, the procedure for populating the database, and the intended purpose and use of the data to ensure continued relevance.
- a similar review of the existing nursing research database.
- an exploration of how reports may be generated in a useful and user friendly manner.
- ways in which the current (and any future) databases can interrelate with each other for the generation of more complex reports

**Chair:** Lynnette Leesberg Stamler, Co-chair, University of Saskatchewan, Board Liaison  
Kathe Macdonald, Co-chair, York University

## **Committee Membership:**

Joan Sawatzky, University of Saskatchewan  
Karen Wall, Red River College  
Nancy Logue, University of New Brunswick  
Mary Reidy, Université de Montréal  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Standing Committee on Education



## **Background:**

- The mandate of the CASN Standing Committee on Education is to fulfill CASN's mission for promoting excellence and advancing innovation in nursing education to reflect changes in Canadian Society.
- The term of office for members on the standing committee is two years.

## **Action Taken:**

- The committee met three times: March 22, September 19, and October 17.
- The committee reviewed a number of position statements during the course of the year. This review was conducted by committee members by obtaining feedback from their respective faculties at their individual schools.

For the June Board of Directors meeting, the following statements were reviewed:

- Baccalaureate Education and Baccalaureate Programs (initially approved in 2004). This was re-approved as is for the next two years, until further work of the task forces (e.g. Task Force on Public Health Education) and other initiatives are complete. It can then be revised for major changes if deemed necessary.
- Master's Level Nursing (initially approved in 2004). This statement will be revised by the committee in 2007.
- Doctoral Education (initially approved in 2004). This statement was re-approved as is for the next two years awaiting input from other task forces. It can then be revised for major changes if deemed necessary

## **Next Steps:**

The committee reviewed the following position statements for review by the Board of Directors at their November 2006 meeting:

- Framework for Assessing Costs for Baccalaureate Education Programs (initially approved in 2004)
- Student Attrition (initially approved in 2004) - Will be reviewed by the Task Force on Attrition prior to review by the Board of Directors

**Chair:** Dr. Barbara Foulds, Associate Dean, Algonquin College

## **Committee Members:**

Barbara Foulds, Algonquin College  
Jacinthe Pepin, Université de Montréal (Co-Chair)  
Kathy Wilson, University of New Brunswick  
Leianne Vye-Rogers, University of Calgary  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Attrition



## **Background:**

The mandate of the Task Force on Attrition is to provide advice and recommendations on strategic directions to the CASN Board of Directors on how to address the issue of attrition. The terms of reference are as follows:

- To review and update the existing CASN Position Statement on Student Attrition.
- To review the Canadian Nursing Advisory Committee (CNAC) Education Projects on Student Attrition (lead Rene Day) and Student Selection Processes (lead Pauline Paul).
- To review the CNAC paper on Attrition by Dr. Dorothy Pringle.
- To conduct a study to identify current attrition rates in nursing as well as in other health disciplines.
- To recommend corrective action, if required. This may include:
  - Reviewing current definitions used, and achieving consensus on standardized definitions;
  - Re-visiting documenting current student selection processes and seeking consensus regarding student selection.
  - Developing and implementing a national standardized exit interview.
- To communicate regularly with the Standing Committee on Education through the CASN National Office staff.
- To report to the Board of Directors annually.

The term of office will be at the discretion of the CASN Executive Committee.

## **Action Taken:**

The task force met by teleconference on June 26<sup>th</sup> and September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Actions to date include a search for a chair for the task force, and the review and revision of the terms of reference.

## **Next Steps:**

The task force has learned that CNA is commissioning an e-scan and discussion paper on attrition, preliminary to hosting a consensus generating meeting. The objective is to identify how attrition should be defined/measured/calculated. The paper will identify how universities/colleges (programs in the health professions, nursing, and programs other than health), provincial governments (e.g. Ministries of Education), and others currently deal with attrition. The work should be completed by December of this year. CNA is prepared to pay approximately \$15,000 for the work, and would like any suggestions as to who might be available. CNA would also like to know of any articles published after 2003 on this topic. The task force will provide any information it can to CNA to support them in this endeavor.

**Chair:** To be determined.

## **Committee Members:**

Lesley Beagrie, York University  
Lynn Miles, Mohawk College  
Barbara Thorburn, Centre for Nursing Studies  
Jocelyne Van Neste-Kenny, North Island College  
Gloria Bowen, NECBC Consultant  
Evelyn Patricia Kennedy, Board Liaison Person  
Barbara Foulds, Chair, Standing Committee on Education (ex-officio)  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Clinical Education



## **Background:**

The terms of reference for the task force are:

- To review the status of clinical education for nursing students across Canada by surveying CASN member schools and regions.
- To identify issues, problems, barriers to providing clinical experiences to undergraduate and graduate nursing students.
- To identify innovative approaches and new opportunities which CASN member schools are utilizing to provide clinical experience to nursing students.
- To plan and organize a national forum on clinical education.
- To develop a national strategy to expand and improve clinical education of nursing students, including recommendations regarding policies and priorities. The

strategy should include CASN, partners and potential funders for a national forum on clinical education.

- To develop CASN's national position on clinical education.
- To advocate for funding for clinical education.
- To ensure regular communication between the chair of this task force and the chair of the Standing Committee on Education through the CASN National Office staff.
- To report to the Board of Directors annually.

The term of office will be at the discretion of the CASN Executive Committee.

## **Action Taken:**

The task force has had five teleconferences – February 13, March 27, April 20, September 29 and November 8. Actions taken are as follows:

1. The position statement developed by the task force and approved by the CASN Board of Directors last November has been sent to CNA for their review. It will be discussed at their November Board meeting, and if approved, will be disseminated as a joint position statement.
2. The strategic plan developed by the task force has been intensively reviewed, with the task force identifying what role it could play in moving the plan forward, and prioritizing the actions contained within. This will be discussed at the plenary session at the CASN November Council Meeting.
3. The chair of the task force is a member of the Inter-professional Advisory committee for the CASN Clinical Placement projects. In this capacity she attended the March 10<sup>th</sup> advisory committee meeting.

An article has been submitted to *The Canadian Nurse* by the task force on this topic.

## **Next Steps:**

After the plenary session on clinical placements at the Council Meeting, at which consensus will be reached on future directions, the role of the task force in advancing the Strategic Plan will be clear. The terms of reference will be revised and action taken accordingly.

**Chair:** Jane Milliken, University of Victoria

## **Committee Members:**

Christine Thrasher, University of Windsor

Katherine Stevenson, Camosun College

Ellen MacFarlane, St-Francis Xavier University

Joanne Gartner, University of Saskatchewan

Louiselle Ouellet, University of New Brunswick

Nicole Harder, University of Manitoba

Ellen Rukholm, President of CASN (ex-officio)

Barbara Foulds, Chair, Standing Committee on Education (ex-officio)

Pat Griffin, Executive Director, CASN (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Inter/Intra Professional Education



## **Background:**

The mandate of this task force is to provide advice and recommendations regarding strategic directions to the CASN Board of Directors on how CASN can demonstrate leadership in creating a role for nursing education within the context of inter-professional undergraduate and graduate education.

## **Terms of Reference:**

- To work collaboratively with other nursing organizations and health professionals to establish a role for nursing education in the current initiatives for inter-professional/multi-disciplinary undergraduate and graduate education. This will necessitate being attentive to different models of education that may be found both within and without a baccalaureate context.
- To develop a position statement on inter-professional education:
- To engage other nursing bodies in the development of the CASN educational strategy, as appropriate.
- To identify inter-professional initiatives, either currently in place or planned for implementation, in CASN member schools.
- To communicate regularly with the Task Force on Intra-professional Education, when established.
- To communicate regularly with the Standing Committee on Education through the CASN National Office staff.
- To report to the CASN Board of Directors annually.

The term of office is at the discretion of the CASN Executive Committee.

## **Action Taken:**

The task force held one teleconference on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006. During this teleconference a chair was selected, and the terms of reference were reviewed and revised. Although the original mandate had been to include both intra-professional and inter-professional education, the task force members felt that the scope would be too large for one group. The task force is, therefore, recommending to the Executive Committee that there be a separate task force created to deal with intra-professional issues.

## **Next Steps:**

The next steps are as follows:

- Receive approval of the revised terms of reference from the Executive Committee,
- Conduct a survey to determine what member schools are currently doing, or planning to do, with regard to inter-professional education at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Develop a position statement and definition for inter-professional education. Member schools will be asked, at the Council Meeting in November, to share resources on models, definition and references.

**Chair:** Pat Wall, University of Saskatchewan

## **Committee Members:**

Sharolyn Mossey, Laurentian University  
Patricia Marck, University of Alberta  
Sioban Nelson, University of Toronto  
Gladys Schofield, Centre for Nursing Studies  
Cynthia Baker, Board Liaison Person  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on IEN



## **Background:**

The Task Force on Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) was struck at the November 2005 Council meeting. The term of office is at the discretion of the CASN Executive Committee.

The mandate for the task force is to provide advice and strategic recommendations to the Board of Directors on CASN's role regarding the entry and integration of internationally educated nurses to the Canadian workforce.

## **Action Taken:**

The task force met once (October 4, 2006) and reviewed/revised the terms of reference, as follows:

- Identify CASN member schools involved in providing programs for IENs by updating the survey conducted in 2004. Investigate whether this information could be collected routinely on the annual CNA-CASN Student Faculty Database.
- Develop a national position statement for CASN on IENs.
- Liaise and follow up with HRSDC, Campus Canada, and the Canadian Virtual University to determine how their work on developing a common framework for foreign credential assessment is progressing.
- Review the CNA Internationally Educated Nurses Diagnostic Phase document and the work done by CNA to date.
- Establish what role CASN and the CASN Accreditation Program could have with regard to foreign credential assessment.
- Develop a proposal for HRSDC for a feasibility study related to the accreditation of international schools of nursing.
- Ensure regular communication between the chair of this task force and the chair of the Standing Committee on Education, through the CASN National Office staff.
- Report to the Board of Directors annually.

## **Next Steps:**

Once the revised terms of reference have been approved by the Executive Committee, work will begin on systematically addressing each of the terms of reference, i.e. updating the survey, developing a position statement, scanning the work of other organizations, and developing a proposal.

**Chair:** To be determined.

## **Committee Members:**

Sue Coffey, York University

Mary Lou King, University of Western Ontario

Kathryn Rousseau, St. Clair College

Lori Shortridge, Kwantlen University

Kristine Martin-McDonald, University of Alberta

John Jacono, Cape Breton University

Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, Dalhousie University

Brenda Jacono, Board Liaison Person

Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)

Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

Jane Winder, CASN Director of Accreditation (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Palliative Care



## **Background:**

- To provide a forum for nurse educator input into the development of inter-professional collaborative educational program guidelines for preparation of future health professionals in caring for and supporting clients and their families in need of palliative and end-of-life care.
- To make recommendations to the CASN Board of Directors on the development of inter-professional collaborative program guidelines.
- To obtain funding to conduct nation wide consensus building among schools of nursing on national standards for palliative care.

## **Action Taken:**

- Task force has developed a resource bank of websites, online courses and literature, some of which is annotated.
- A document outlining palliative and end-of-life care competencies for nurses has been completed and approved by the task force. This may be further fine tuned when the activities listed below are complete.
- Funding has been obtained from the Health Canada's Secretariat on Palliative

and End-of-Life Care to develop palliative care competencies to support the future development of palliative care curriculum for Canada's 91 nursing schools.

## **Next Steps:**

- The funds obtained from the Secretariat of Palliative and End-of-Life (\$24,000) will go towards conducting a survey to describe the current status of undergraduate Canadian nursing education with regard to palliative and end-of-life competencies. The task force will become the steering committee for the project.
- A national invitational symposium (funded for \$26,000) will be hosted by Health Canada's Secretariat on Palliative and End-of-Life Care and once the survey is complete the task force will use the results in organizing this symposium.

**Chair:** Brenda Jacono, Cape Breton University (Board Liason)

## **Committee Members:**

Cathy Foster, University of Manitoba  
Mitzi Grace Mitchell, York University  
Heather Jewers, St Francis Xavier University  
Holly Richardson, Dalhousie University  
Beryl Cable-Williams, Fleming College  
Lynne Young, University of Victoria  
Mireille Lavoie, Universite Laval  
Sharon Baxter, Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association  
Barbara Foulds, Standing Committee on Education (ex-officio)  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Patient Safety



## **Background:**

To assist CASN members in ensuring that all baccalaureate graduates of Canadian schools of nursing are prepared in the broad-based concepts of and expected standards for patient safety in all practice settings. Such preparation should foster safe, competent, and ethical nursing practice. To this end, the task force will conduct a critical review of the patient safety literature as it relates to nursing education. The review will address these broad based concepts and furthermore, it will build on existing knowledge.

## **Terms of Reference**

- To develop a synthesis literature review on patient safety and nursing education.
- To identify existing guidelines for teaching concepts related to patient safety.
- To incorporate patient safety concepts into student evaluation in practice settings.
- To review terminology used and develop a “How to access common terminology” guidebook.
- To develop guidelines to assist faculty teaching in nursing programs to meet recognized concepts related to patient safety.
- To articulate a position statement on nursing education related to patient safety.
- To represent CASN’s position on patient safety education in national discussions regarding health care in all settings.
- To develop a strategy to enhance patient safety nursing education.
- To foster practitioner’s leadership concerning patient safety education.
- To establish a resource bank (knowledge and information) related to patient safety education (websites, resources, modules, bibliographies, etc.) to share with CASN members and other stakeholders.
- To ensure regular communications between the chair of this task force and the chair of the Standing Committee on Education through the CASN National office staff.
- To report to the Board of Directors annually.

## **Action Taken:**

The Task Force completed the following activities during the course of the past year:

Conducted a review and synthesis of the patient safety literature, including patient safety and nursing education. This review and synthesis were incorporated into the position statement, *Patient Safety and Nursing Education*.

The position statement addresses the following substantive areas: Nursing curricula as systems; patient safety and student data sets; patient safety and core curriculum content; and accreditation and patient safety. Each of these areas should be helpful to CASN members in terms of addressing patient safety within the context of nursing education.

*Patient Safety and Nursing Education*. There are two appendices in the statement: (1). Resource bank on patient safety and, (2). Targeted competencies for patient safety.

The resource bank highlights and presents patient safety websites in Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States. There are also specific sites regarding education and patient safety, eg., “Faculty Leadership in Interprofessional Education to Promote Patient Safety (FLIEPPS). Included in the bank are national and international reports, E-Newsletters/Books and journal articles addressing nursing practice, education, and patient safety.

# Task Force on Patient Safety

Targeted Competencies for Patient Safety. The task force developed a table outlining competencies related to students, patient safety, and nursing education. The following competencies are addressed:

- Assess the safety and quality of care and apply prevention measures;
- Adopt a system approach to patient safety;
- Recognize, report and manage risks and adverse events;
- Learn from an adverse event; and,
- Maintain the dynamics of the culture of safety.

Each competency is developed around four core knowledge domains: theoretical knowledge, procedural knowledge, attitudes, and contextual knowledge. Nurse educators can use these competencies to look within programs, curricula, courses, and classroom-clinical contexts to address patient safety.

Members of the task force assisted the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) with the development of a survey on patient safety content in Canadian nursing schools.

Dr. Jan Storch, member of the task force, represented CASN on the Research and Advisory Committee of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute.

## **Next Steps:**

The task force was successful in achieving its mandate and the “terms of reference” criteria. Although the task force has formally disbanded, it is willing to address future patient safety and nursing education matters of concern to the Board of Directors and the CASN membership.

**Chair:** David Gregory, School of Health Sciences, University of Lethbridge

## **Committee Members:**

Michelle Chisholm, St. Francis Xavier University

Mélanie Lavoie-Tremblay, McGill University

Cecil Michaud, University of Sherbrooke

Donna Rawlin, Mohawk College

Janet Storch, University of Victoria

Brenda Tobin, Center for Nursing Studies

Deborah Tregunno, York University

Lorna Wiesbrod, Nursing Division, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology

Barbara Foulds, Standing Committee on Education (ex-officio)

Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)

Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on PHC / NP



## **Background:**

During the past year members of the Task Force on PHC/NP Education have remained active in the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative (CNPI). Suzanne Doucette and Esther Sangster-Gormley have represented the CASN Task Force on Nurse Practitioner Education as members of the CNPI Education Task Force. In October and November 2005 and January 2006 task force members attended CNPI meetings held in Ottawa. During these meetings, members were able to contribute to the discussion of the streams of practice for nurse practitioners, the national education framework and the national nurse practitioner examination.

## **Action Taken:**

January 2006 the task force, along with Pat Griffin and Dina Idriss met with Gail Shandro, Manager of the CNPI Education Task Force. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the role of the CASN and the Task Force on PHC/NP Education in the implementation of the CNPI recommendations for nurse practitioner education. There was agreement that CASN and the Task Force on PHC/NP Education have a significant role to play in the implementation of CNPI's recommendations for nurse practitioner education. The final report from CNPI was delivered in June 2006.

## **Next Steps**

Recommendations for the future of the Task Force on PHC/NP Education :

- Establish a clear direction for future work of the Task Force on PHC/NP Education.
- Review the Task Force on PHC/NP Education strategic direction and compare it to the CNPI education framework for consistency.
- Bring together nurse practitioner educators from across the country to discuss nurse practitioner education and how educators and programs may collaborate to meet the future needs of nurse practitioner education.
- Strengthen relationships between nurse practitioner educators across the country.
- Establish mechanisms to stimulate research into nurse practitioner education.

**Chair:** Esther Sangster-Gormley, MS, NP

## **Committee Members:**

Maxine Mott, Kwantlen University College  
Deborah Kane, University of Windsor  
Elsie Duff, University of Manitoba  
Joan Rowsell, Centre for Nursing Studies  
Mary MacDonald, University of Saskatchewan  
Shona Johansen, Thompson Rivers University  
Suzanne Doucette, University of Ottawa  
Elaine Duffy, University of Windsor, Board Liaison  
Joyce Bruce, SIAST  
Marjorie MacDonald, University of Victoria  
Barbara Foulds, Chair, Standing Committee on Education (Ex-officio)  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Public Health



## **Background:**

The Task Force on Public Health Education was created in the fall of 2004 to develop a position and plan to enhance public health undergraduate nursing education in Canada. The term of office for this task force is two years. Because of the mandate of the task force, and in a departure from previous task forces, the membership of this task force was expanded to include representatives from stakeholders in addition to CASN members. As well, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), as part of its mandate in terms of health human resources and education, has partnered with the CASN task force. By decision of the CASN Board of Directors, PHAC representatives are privy to and attend task force meetings, but do not have voting power.

## **Action Taken:**

In collaboration with PHAC, a hugely successful pan-Canadian symposium for educators and other community health stakeholders was held in April, 2006 (postponed from January due to the election). Participants gave individual thoughtful consideration to pre-symposium questions and continued those discussions in face-to-face groups. The data was augmented by submissions from public health managers' groups in two provinces. All the data were synthesized to create the recommendations for CASN Board of Directors for the November, 2006 meeting. The task force has also submitted presentation abstracts to OPHA, ICN and Leadership conferences.

In response to requests during the CASN Council Meeting 2005, the task force was given the additional mandate of assisting schools of nursing to create pandemic plans. The task force members created a package of information for each school, and will present a panel presentation at the 2006 Council meeting on potential legal and ethical issues of a school of nursing pandemic plan.

## **Next Steps:**

Following the direction of the Board of Directors, members of the task force are open to participate in implementation of the approved recommendations.

**Chair:** Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler (University of Saskatchewan)

## **Committee Members:**

Margaret Antolovich – Public Health Nurses Leaders Council of British Columbia

Benita Cohen – University of Manitoba

Susan Froude – Nursing for Public Health Services for Grenfell Regional Health

Pat Gibson – Selkirk College

Omaima Mansi – McGill University

Donna Meagher-Stewart – Community Health Nurses Association of Canada

Health Pattullo – Canadian Public Health Association

Christina Rajsic – University of Toronto

Jane Reiter - PHAC

Pat Seaman – University of New Brunswick

Jo Ann Tober – ANDSOOHA

Carla Troy - PHAC

Ruta Valatis – McMaster University

Jane Underwood - PHAC

Ellen Rukholm, CASN President (ex-officio)

Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)

# Standing Committee on Research and Scholarship



## **Background:**

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Research and Scholarship is to fulfill the responsibility of CASN's mission for the advancement of nursing knowledge and development of nursing research capacity. The terms of reference are as follows:

- To develop policy, position statements and guidelines on issues related to research and scholarship including the conduct of nursing research, the adherence to accepted ethical principles, the dissemination of nursing knowledge and the training of nurse researchers.
- To develop and implement a national nursing research strategy.
- To promote the development of the science of nursing education.
- To respond to external requests for representation and for input into national submissions and statements.
- To prepare CASN's response to national proposals relating to knowledge generation and knowledge transfer.
- To advocate for funding to support nursing education and health research and the training of nurse researchers.
- To hold forums/conferences for CASN's members on issues related to research and scholarship.
- To develop and implement a national nursing research strategy in collaboration with the Canadian Consortium on Research and Innovation.
- To build nursing research capacity and heighten the profile of nursing research.
- To recommend to the Board of Directors the establishment of Ad Hoc/task force working parties.
- To ensure regular communication between the Chair of the Standing Committee and its respective task forces.
- To report to the Board of Directors and Council Meeting annually.

The term of office is two (2) years.

## **Action Taken:**

The standing committee had one teleconference (March 16), and one face-to-face all-day meeting (June 18) in Saskatoon. The Position Statement on the Definition of Scholarship was thoroughly reviewed and some revisions made. The revised statement will be discussed at the November board meeting.

Michael Villeneuve, Scholar-in-Residence from the Canadian Nurses Association, was in attendance for part of the meeting in Saskatoon. A lively discussion ensued, with future directions and the need for collaboration and capacity building discussed.

## **Next Steps:**

The committee will continue its review of the CASN Standing Committee on Research and Scholarship strategic plan for 2004-2005. Once the committee has determined what is still outstanding from the plan, these will be included in CASN's overall strategic plan.

**Chair :** Lise Talbot, University of Sherbrooke  
Nancy Goddard, Red Deer College (Co-chair)

## **Current membership**

Diane Morin, Laval University  
Linda Ferguson, University of Saskatchewan  
Aroha Page, Nipissing University  
Sheila Evans, University of Calgary  
Ellen Rukholm, President, CASN (ex-officio)  
Pat Griffin, Executive Director, CASN (ex-officio)

# Standing Committee on Strategic Planning



## **Background:**

To ensure that CASN is appropriately positioned and prepared to fulfill its mission and objectives for the medium to long-term future.

## **Terms of Reference:**

- To undertake regular environmental scanning related to the mission of CASN.
- To identify possible policy and political scenarios with potential to affect CASN.
- To keep the Board fully apprised of such potential scenarios and make recommendations for CASN's strategic response.
- To regularly review CASN's strategic plan and process.
- To ensure regular communications between the chair of the standing committee and its respective task forces.
- To report to the Board of Directors and Council Meeting annually.

The term of office is two (2) years.

## **Action Taken:**

The committee has met twice during the past year. The main work has been to review the progress made towards achieving the actions outlined in the strategic plan, and ensuring that the strategic plan remains relevant.

## **Next Steps:**

The committee will:

- coordinate the work of the task forces and standing committees with the strategic plan in order to ensure that work is progressing;
- incorporate any burning new issues into the plan; and
- continue to monitor and support activities and report on progress through the CASN website, newsletter and at the annual Council Meeting.

**Chair:** Ellen Rukholm, Laurentian University (co-chair)  
Michael Garreau, President CNSA (co-chair)

## **Committee Members:**

Kathe Macdonald,	York University
Marlene Smadu,	Canadian Nurses Association, President, University of Saskatchewan
Cathy Stratton	Western Regional School of Nursing
Pat Griffin	CASN Executive Director (ex-officio)
Jo-Anne Swanson	Staff Liaison (ex-officio)

# Task Force on Governance



## **Background:**

The task force has decided to proceed by building on what we have in current practices and then adding modifications and additions that are needed for organizational effectiveness. While CASN does not have written policies, there are approaches which have evolved and it is intended to capture what the CASN Board of Directors is doing now before deciding whether changes are needed or deciding what new policies should be developed. As this work is proceeding the task force will also identify what governance approach is best suited for

CASN.

## **Next Steps:**

The task force recommends that CASN Board have policies in the following subject areas:

- CASN aims (ends) – including overarching principles based on the mission and vision.
- How the CASN Board governs itself – including frequency of meetings, review of policies and bylaws, transparency, the role of the executive committee
- Relationship of the CASN Board with the Executive Director and the relationship of the CASN Board with the Accreditation Bureau – including which decisions are made by the Executive Director and which are made by the Board.
- Executive limitations – what things does CASN Board not want the Executive Director to do?

As a first step the current practices will be written down and distributed to the task force members for the next meeting. During that process, topics will be identified which do not have a current policy and for which a policy is needed. Options will be suggested for those identified topics.

The task force will then consider the current policy, develop changes for it as needed and develop new policies for the identified topics. During this process the task force will identify what governance approach is best for CASN.

**Chair:** Kathryn Munn, Public Representative, CASN Board of Directors

## **Committee Members:**

Hope Graham, St. Francis Xavier University  
Michael Garreau, President CNSA  
Kileen Tucker Scott, Ryerson University  
Donna Lynn Smith, University of Alberta  
Ellen Rukholm, CASN President  
Pat Griffin, CASN Executive Director  
Jo-Anne Swanson, CASN Director of Corporate Services