



Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario

NURSING RESEARCH INTEREST GROUP

Newsletter

March 2007

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News from the President

Lynn McCleary

Chairperson, Nursing Research Interest Group

On behalf of the 2007-2008 NRIG executive and members, Happy New Year. I hope this year brings you success in your endeavors to conduct, disseminate, and use nursing research.

As you'll see in this newsletter, your executive is having a busy year with educational events, creating materials to help you write better grants, and running our competition for funding. Thanks to everyone on the executive for their work. We have an enthusiastic group that shares the work, making it easier for everyone to contribute to NRIG's success. We really enjoy our work together.

Now is the time for you to consider being more involved with NRIG. Our activities depend on our executive. Executive members serve two year terms. We have openings for the coming year for the following positions:

- Chair
- Chair elect
- Member at large, communications (newsletter)
- Member at large, activities
- Student representative (undergraduate student)

Please contact me if you are interested in filling one of these positions.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our Spring AGM. Suggestions for discussion you'd like to have at the meeting are welcome. Until then, you have my best wishes for your use of nursing research to strengthen your voice as you speak out for nursing and for health.

Educational Event Highlights – Writing Grants for Research Funding

Activities: Angela Cooper Brathwaite



Photo: Angela Cooper Brathwaite, Julie Mendelson, Kathy McGilton

On November 28, Julie Mendelson from Toronto Rehabilitation Institute presented an informative and thought providing workshop to our membership via webcast. This presentation was in collaboration with the Institute of Lifecourse and Aging at 40 George St, University of Toronto. Over 900 NRIG and CNSIG members received the notification of this presentation by email. A total of 33 participants attended this session from many different sites including: Chedoke-McMaster Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre, Timmins, Peterborough, Windsor, Kingston, Ottawa and Toronto. During the webcast, 23 participants logged on to view and participate in the presentation. Approximately 10 other members who missed the session were able to view it on the internet days later. Feedback from participants was positive e.g. "The NRIG webcast was fantastic and truly encompassing of NRIG and CNSIG members. Great initiative! WOW!"

The cost of providing the workshop was shared between NRIG and University of Toronto Institute for Lifecourse and Aging. To access an archive of the webcast, go to:

<http://mediacast.ic.utoronto.ca/20071128-ILCA/index.htm>

The link will also be posted on our section of the RNAO website:

http://www.rnao.org/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=647&SiteNodeID=113&BL_ExpandID=

The link to the webcast and accompanying slides will be made available on the NRIG website.

Membership Update

Maria Tandoc

NRIG has nearly 1200 members of which almost 600 are students (and hopefully career-long members). NRIG has committed to support students by offering to pay \$10 toward membership fees for students. Forms for this discount were distributed to Schools of Nursing across Ontario. For members who have forgotten to renew, please contact RNAO using the following link: www.rnao.org. Members can renew online, by fax or by phone 416 599-1925 or toll free at 1-800-268-7199.

Political Action

Don Wildfong

On January 23rd, 2008, the RNAO's 9th Annual Day at Queen's Park was held in Toronto, ON. RNAO members identified the following issues for discussion with the MPPs: Competitive Bidding for Home Care, Employment for new Grads, Increasing the ratio to 70 % for full time employment versus 30 % part time employment. Speakers included Minister Smitherman, followed by PC Leader John Tory, Minister Whitman and two members of the NPD Party. Small group meetings were held afterward with different politicians. Angela represented NRIG and met with Andrea Horwath, NDP Critic for Occupational Health and Safety, Children and Youth Services. As she represents the Hamilton riding, the discussion focused on the support from the Ministry to stop the competitive bidding process for Home Care Services. She also addressed legislative changes to the off-road vehicle act (ATVs), support for new grads who would like to

remain in Ontario following graduation, and funding for LTC facilities. The politicians were presented a book on medicare.

NRIG Website

Sue Bookey-Bassett

We look forward to working with the newly hired website support specialist at RNAO to update our website. We welcome volunteers and suggestions from any members interested in working with us on this project.

NRIG Scholarship and Research Grants Program 2008

Each year NRIG offers a number of small grants for research projects pertinent to nursing. Funds are suitable to help finance small projects, pilot studies, or to partially finance the costs of larger projects. Applicants must be RNAO - NRIG members and new investigators. They may be students, faculty or nurses who are working in a clinical setting or studying, depending on the category of the grant. Two categories of awards are available, OPEN RESEARCH GRANTS and GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS.

For more information, visit the NRIG website and click on "News".

<http://www.nursingresearch-rnao.org/index.htm>

Successful applicants will be announced at the AGM.

Notice of NRIG Annual General Meeting April 12, 2008

Mark your calendar...We will be partnering with CNSIG again this year based on the successful collaboration in 2007. The guest speaker will be Dr. Denyse Bryant Lukosius from McMaster University who will discuss her research.

The NRIG AGM is held in conjunction with the RNAO AGM (April 10-12) at the Hilton

Suites Toronto/Markham Conference Centre & Spa, in Markham. Registration forms are available on the RNAO website.

The AGM will begin with breakfast at 0830. The agenda for the AGM will include reports from the executive, discussion on the NRIG bylaws, call for nominations, election of the 2008-2009 executive, and revisiting the monetary value of the research scholarship and grants awards. See the president's message for details of positions available on the executive.

Student Participation at NRIG and RNAO AGM

We hope that all members, including student members will attend the AGM. We will again sponsor students to attend the AGM for both RNAO and NRIG. NRIG is sponsoring one undergraduate student NRIG member and one graduate student NRIG member to attend the AGM. Two students are eligible to receive half of the cost of one night hotel, registration for the RNAO dinner and NRIG breakfast meeting, plus up to \$100 for travel. Students apply for sponsorship by contacting Setera Nasserri at setare01@gmail.com.

NRIG Bylaws

We are in the process of updating our bylaws. Last Spring we discovered that we couldn't be sure that we have a copy of our most recent bylaws. As you know, keeping records in a volunteer organization can be challenging, with turnover of volunteers and misfortune volunteers can experience with their computers. Luckily, we were able to piece together a document based on a previous version of the bylaws and information on our website and pamphlet. This version was approved by the executive in September, pending approval by the membership at our next AGM. The bylaws are attached to the newsletter. We will seek approval of the bylaws from the membership on April 12th. Over the next year we will continue to update the bylaws and present revised bylaws to the

membership at the 2009 AGM. We are working to update the bylaws. One update we've made is to use the structure recommended by RNAO for some of our executive positions and to include all current positions, including a new position for a member-at-large, communications (newsletter). We will seek approval for this revision at the AGM. If anyone is interested in assisting with this process, we welcome another volunteer.

News from Board of Directors- Research Committee

Elsabeth Jensen, MAL Research

NRIG has a representative on the Board of the Canadian Association of Nursing Research (CANR) – a CNA interest group.

NRIG members are encouraged to join CANR and enjoy its benefits.

http://www.canr.ca/default_frameset.asp

7 great reasons to join CANR:

1. We have a partnership with the Canadian Journal of Nursing Research (CJNR), which enables our members to receive CJNR for a discounted price.
2. Our website and listserve provides current information to members, as well as opportunity for networking and discussion about relevant issues
3. Our website at www.canr.ca, will be updated regularly with information on how to contact board members, links to other research sites, and regional news items.
4. We recognize the contributions of new and established investigators thorough biannual awards
5. We are an associate member of CNA and are often consulted about research issues by CNA and other associate members
6. We are often consulted by funding organizations for input on new initiatives, such as CIHR, and for request for reviewers.

7. CANR is an excellent venue for graduate students to network with nurse researchers from across the country

Students' Corner

To address the unique needs of our student members, each newsletter will include highlights of a topic of interest to students or others new to research. In this article, the author argues that it is important to integrate a basic knowledge of statistics into the critique of quantitative research studies. The author describes a set of 'golden rules' for statistical analyses that she has developed over several years working with students.

Robinson, J. (2001). Mastering research critique and statistical interpretation: Guidelines and golden rules. *Nurse Educator*, 26 (3), 136-141.

Abstract: Mastery of statistical analysis research critique is an important skill for professional nurses. Guidelines for statistical analysis and golden rules are presented and applied to classroom use. Students who learn how to critique research and statistics usage effectively are satisfied consumers and report using knowledge in other clinical courses. Effective strategies to teach statistical analysis critique are discussed.

Worth Repeating

In 2005, CHSRF published an important paper on the role of evidence in creating best practice guidelines.

Lomas, J., Culyer, T., McCutcheon, C., McAuley, L. & Law, S. (2005). *Conceptualizing and combining evidence for health system guidance*. Canadian Health Services Research Foundation.

"This paper has addressed two highly related topics: "what counts as evidence in the provision of health system guidance?" and "how is evidence (however defined) best combined to create health system

guidance?" In an attempt to defuse some of the polemical and rhetorical debate around concepts of evidence the paper provides a framework, based on a systematic review of the literature, that gives credence and value to three forms of evidence:

- medically oriented effectiveness research (context-free scientific evidence);
- social science-oriented research (context-sensitive scientific evidence); and
- the expertise, views, and realities of stakeholders (colloquial evidence).

We (the authors) argue that each form of evidence has a role to play in producing context-sensitive, evidence-based guidance for the health system. However, we also note that under usual circumstances there are no magic technical processes available to combine these different forms of evidence to create health system guidance. Thus each form of evidence must be entered into a deliberative process, with representation from both the scientific and stakeholder communities, if they are to be converted into a final consensus around appropriate, feasible, and realistic guidance for the health system." (p. 24)

Upcoming Events

Plans are underway to provide an educational session in September on writing for publication. Details to follow.

Fifth ICN International NP/APN Network Conference -Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice: Maximizing Health, Celebrating Collaboration and Promoting Innovation
17-20 September 2008
Toronto, Canada
(<http://www.caapn.com>)

Ninth Annual Options for Diabetes Conference
April 11-12, 2008
Holiday Inn, Kingston, Ontario, Canada
Who should attend: Healthcare professionals interested in increasing their knowledge of diabetes

Topics to include: update of clinical practice guidelines (2008), United Nations resolution on diabetes, identification of risk populations, metabolic syndrome, chronic disease management, disordered eating, female sexual dysfunction in diabetes

For more information, contact:

Margaret Little (613) 547-3438 or email: hartwork@kingston.net or Joan Ferguson (416) 239-0551

Invitational Workshop:

Enhancing Skills for Nursing Research

Thursday May 8 and 22, 2008 9 am – 4 pm
McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
Registration \$250

This two-day research skills workshop will be of interest to baccalaureate and graduate prepared nurses who are interested in refreshing and refining their research skills.

Day One demystifies the research process and introduces participants to important issues of research design including formulating a research question and using the best evidence in nursing research. Participants will participate in a hands-on computer lab to learn how to conduct on-line literature searches.

Day Two provides an in depth analysis of the principles of nursing research with presentations on quantitative and qualitative research, statistical analysis and sample size calculation, and research ethics. Janet Rush will wrap up the day with a discussion of publication and dissemination of research findings

For further information please contact:

Maria Cavicchioli
905-525-9140 ext 22292
cavicch@mcmaster.ca

21st Annual Research Conference

School of Nursing & Iota Omicron Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

May 2, 2008, Lamplighter Inn, London, ON.
The theme this year is, 'Celebrating Nursing Research: Past, Present, and Future'. The keynote presentation "Outcomes Focused

Knowledge Translation: Transforming Practice at the Point-of-Care:” will be given by Diane Doran, PhD, RN, Professor, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto. The Call for Abstracts (due March 17) and registration form are found on the conference website: <http://publish.uwo.ca/~maandrus/stti/mainpage.htm>

Please contact Angela Law at 519-661-4064 if you have questions about the conference.

Nursing Research Council of Southeastern Ontario Health Sciences Centre, Annual Nursing Research Conference
June 6, 2008, Kingston, ON
Transforming Practice: The Power of Research – The conference goal is to profile nursing research from across the continuum of care and the impact it has on shaping and informing the nursing profession. Abstracts submission deadline is March 19, 2008. For more information, contact Janet Abbink, Kingston General Hospital, (613) 549-6666 x4867 or abbinkj@kgh.hari.net .

NRIG BylawsREGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF
ONTARIO NURSING

RESEARCH INTEREST GROUP (NRIG)

September, 2007

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nursing Research Interest Group promotes the conduct and utilization of nursing research in Ontario through, lobbying, funding, educating, collaborating and networking, with the ultimate purpose of improving the health of the people of the province.

The NRIG activities will reflect the five CORE VALUES embraced by the RNO which are respecting human dignity, being committed to diversity, inclusivity, democracy and voluntarism.

OBJECTIVE

1. To promote nursing research in Ontario.
2. To lobby for resources that will enhance excellence in nursing research.
3. To lobby for nursing representation on peer review committees.
4. To disseminate research information to nurses, the public and other health care providers.
5. To further develop and maintain a collaborative nursing research network.
6. To promote and facilitate clinical application of research findings.
7. To enhance the scholarship and research capabilities of novice nurse researchers.

MEMBERSHIP

1. All RNO members/associates who are involved in or have an interest in nursing research. This includes:
 - Nurses conducting studies
 - Nurses learning to become involved in research
 - Nurses using research in clinical practice
 - Nurses wanting to contribute to clinical practice
2. Applications for membership should be submitted to NRIG accompanied by a current membership fee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE *see footnote

1. The elected executive committee shall consist of the:

Chairperson	1 year
Chairperson elect	1 year

Past chairperson	1 year
Secretary	2 years
Treasurer	2 years
Newsletter Editor	2 years
Members-at-Large-NRIG	2 years
Members-at-Large-RNO	2 years
Ex officio	2 years

COMMITTEES

1. Ad hoc committees will be established as needed.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

1. One meeting for general membership will be held annually.
2. The executive will meet a minimum of 4 times each year,

QUORUM

1. At the annual meeting the members present will be a quorum.
2. At executive meetings 50.0% of the elected members will be a quorum.

NOMINATIONS

1. The Executive Committee will serve as the nomination committee.
2. An approved slate of members will be circulated prior to the annual meeting. Nominations also will be accepted from the floor.

ELECTIONS

1. Elections for the Executive Committee will take place at the annual meeting.

*Footnote: We are working to update the bylaws. At the AGM, members will be asked to approve the following structure for the executive committee. This structure is congruent with our need for volunteers on the executive and with the structure used by RNO.

• Chairperson	2 years
• Chairperson elect	1 year
• Past chairperson	2 years
• Secretary	2 years
• Treasurer	2 years
• Member-at-large, communication (newsletter)	2 years
• Members-at-large, communication (website)	2 years
• Member-at-large, membership	2 years
• Member-at-large, political action	2 years
• Student representative	2 years
• Member-at-large, RNO board representative ex officio	2 years