

REPORT: VISIT TO COPENHAGEN: 6-16 JUNE 2001

**Dr Valerie Ehlers**

Senior Lecturer, Department of Advanced Nursing Sciences, Unisa

During this visit three international conferences were attended:

- 12th International Nursing Research Conference (STTI) with the theme: *Clinical scholarship, technology and globalization connects nursing scholarship with clinical practice around the globe*
- 3rd International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing (INDEN) with the theme: *The social relevance of nursing scholarship and doctoral education*
- 22nd Quadrennial International Council of Nurses (ICN) Conference with the theme: *Nursing: a new era.*

Much information was shared and numerous international contacts were established or renewed. As it is almost impossible to do justice to the extent of any conference in a single report, only the major emphasis will be outlined. Rather than trying to summarise the events, contact details and Internet addresses will be supplied, enabling interested persons to access further information themselves. A list of forthcoming conferences will also be supplied, with contact details.

8-9 JUNE 2001: STTI CONFERENCE, 12TH INTERNATIONAL NURSING RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Theme: Clinical scholarship, technology and globalization connects nursing scholarship with clinical practice around the globe

During the two days, more than 200 research pa-

pers were presented, emphasising evidence-based nursing practice. The objectives of the conference were to:

- promote research and clinical scholarship among and within international networks of colleagues
- identify current global trends in nursing research
- discuss international health care concerns
- explore the use of technology in the conduct and dissemination of research within a global market place
- recognise the importance of using research findings to support evidence-based nursing practice.

STTI has established an on-line nursing research library that can be accessed at: www.nursingsociety.org/library. This web site also provides information about a career map, the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, school of nursing links, and scholarship searches.

The national league of nurses' (NLN's) priorities for research in nursing education

- Competencies of nursing graduates for 21st century practice
- Accountability links between educational programmes and health outcomes
- Infusion of technology into concepts, structures, processes of nursing education
- Resource accountability models of educating the nursing workforce
- Educator competencies for changing social, health care and educational worlds
- Research-based paradigms, strategies and evaluation models for nursing education.

10 JUNE 2001: INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR DOCTORAL EDUCATION IN NURSING: 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Theme: The social relevance of nursing scholarship and doctoral education

Some of the thought-provoking papers presented included:

- Approaches to effective international alliances in nursing practice and scholarship.
- Nursing research and doctoral education through university-government cooperation.
- International quality indicators for doctoral programmes.
- Research and doctoral education needs.
- The impact of doctoral degrees on clinical practice.

INDEN's web page can be accessed at: <http://www.umich.edu/~inden/>. The papers presented at the 1st and 2nd international conferences can also be accessed at this address. The papers presented at the 2001 conference will be available by the end of 2001. This is indeed a most worthwhile web page to visit for any nursing scholars planning overseas visits. The addresses of universities offering doctoral programmes for nurses throughout the world are accessible at this web page.

10-15 JUNE 2001: ICN 22ND QUADREN-NIAL CONGRESS

Theme: Nursing: a new era for action

This huge conference, attended by approximately 6 000 nurses from all over the world, was well organised and offered numerous opportunities for international collaboration. Large numbers of posters and concurrent sessions were presented throughout each day. Many coffee shops were available where discussions continued after official presentations ended.

Issues which influenced the nursing profession's new era for action included:

- The influences of technology and globalisation on both the basic and continuing education available to nurses throughout the world (some web-sites are included where distance education courses could be accessed).
- Technology and globalisation also affect nursing research enabling nurses from many different countries to co-operate in conducting research on similar issues in different countries; and in making their research findings available internationally.
- Globally nurses succeeded in taking part in policy formulations and in assuming political roles in many countries.
- Private practice nurses are providing home-based and/or community-based care in many countries of the world; contributing towards maintaining patients/clients within their families and communities, reducing hospitalisation costs, and creating income-generating services for private nurses.
- Pandemic tobacco issues were addressed.
- Genetic issues were focused on during a plenary and a number of concurrent sessions; ethical and legal aspects of genetic testing, diagnoses, treatment and counseling need to be addressed on a global level; genetherapy/transfer technologies could raise numerous legal and ethical issues for professional nurses.
- The global supply of and demand for nurses constituted a major focus area throughout the conference; the world-wide shortage of nurses is aggravated by decreasing numbers of student nurses, the growing private sector health care industries which employ ever larger numbers of nurses, increased job opportunities for women in many countries, and the migration of nurses between countries: especially from the developing to the developed countries. Intra- and international migration of nurses are affected by various "push-and-pull" factors.

The keynote speakers during the plenary sessions, in addition to ICN dignitaries included Jane Fonda (well-known actress) who addressed the realities of girls' lives, Sheila Tlou (from Botswana) who spoke about new partnerships in the fight against AIDS, and Dr Bertrand Piccard (psychiatrist and world-known captain of the only non-stop hot air balloon flight around the world) entitled his presentation 'From vision to action'. This last presentation was the most memorable of the entire nine days' conference presentations. Dr Piccard's presentation was well prepared, presented with authenticity and conviction, and illustrated with numerous beautiful photos (slides) taken from the hot air balloon. He emphasised that hot air balloons are like the winds of life that shape our futures; that success is not guaranteed and might demand numerous attempts. Dr Piccard contrasted traveling in hot air balloons with traveling through life, maintaining that we never know where we are going to, and that we only know where we came from if we have good memories. In the same way that the hot air balloon demands control from all its team members to meet its destination, every human has to control his/her emotions, reactions and experiences in order to be successful. Just as the fast winds might not be blowing in the direction in which the hot air balloon should be traveling, the easy choices in life might not be the ones that will lead the individual(s) concerned to their destinations.

Many issues addressed during the conference, will be further explored in future editions of the International Nursing Review (official publication of the ICN). The ICN's web site can be accessed at: www.icn.ch

USEFUL INTERNET ADDRESSES

STTI library: www.nursingsociety.org/library

ICN's web site: www.icn.ch

PhD and Master's programmes in Health Informatics (University of Texas): www.shis.uth.tmc.edu

International Center for Nursing Ethics:
www.arnoldpublishers.com/journals

Measuring patients' views on quality care:
material@bildafarlag.se

Post-doctoral nursing programmes:
www.nursing.ualberta.ca

www.needlestick.org

www.med.virginia.edu/~epinet

www.cdc.gov

www.nursebooks.org

www.osha.gov

www.cdc.gov/niosh

www.NursingWorld.org

www.springerpub.com (nurses' guide to consumer health can be accessed)

www.rcn.org.uk/conferences

www.wbsaunders.com (guidelines for their journals' authors)

www.kwaliteitsplatform.avv.nl (quality care and role of the nurse)

hanah@imt.liu.se (Master's course in informatics: Sweden)

anjjournal@hotmail.com (Journal: Applied Nursing Research)

www.springerpub.com (nurses' guide to consumer health web sites)

www.cnn.com/health

www.euronews.net

www.anacnet.org (newsletter written by HIV positive nurses)

www.hta.nhsweb.uk (valuable health-related information can be retrieved from these systematic reviews by the Cochrane Library).

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

15-16 February 2002: GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS IN MENTAL HEALTH. Copenhagen, Denmark. www.rcn.org.uk/conferences or euromentalhealth@rcn.org.uk

6-8 April 2002: 8TH QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE. BANFF, Alberta, Canada. www.ualberta.ca/~iiqm

7-10 April 2002: RCN NURSING RESEARCH
CONFERENCE. Devon, Exeter, UK.
www.man.ac.uk/rcn/research2002

14-18 April 2002: INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
OF MIDWIVES. Vienna, Austria.
midwives@medacad.org

23-24 May 2002: CREATING CARING ENVI-
RONMENTS. Boston, Massachusetts.
caringconference@partners.org

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