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NEWS THIS MONTH

By Chris Taua and Stacey Wilson

Greetings everyone, my doesn't time fly! I can't believe Easter is upon us again. Work in the MH education sector at CPIT is so busy at the moment with the revised Undergraduate Curriculum and planning to develop a National Diploma in Mental Health (Support Work) I wonder sometimes where we are going to find the time to do this and continue with our current work. However, when I bemoan the speed of the weeks, months and years as they fly by I like to recall the brief quote from Althsuler who wisely reminds us that '*The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot.*' I must therefore take control!

Important immediate news is the Special General Meeting of Te Ao Maramatanga on April 4th 2007 at 12.30pm. This SGM is to consider an addition to the constitution that will allow the awarding of Fellowships. The meeting will be held by audio conference, with a connection in each Branch or main centre. Voting will take place at the meeting and will be by show of hands, to be counted by the Secretary (or nominee) of each branch. Proposed Fellowship criteria can be found at <http://www.nzcmhn.org.nz/webapps/site/21290/31132/html/page.html>

The College committee has been very busy already this year with Heather and Thelma involved in consultation with key people around the health sector. Heathers report below expands on this.

There has been a lively debate on the College list concerning the Therapeutics products and Medicine bill. According to the Nursing Council, they are concerned that the Ministry of Health has advised the Select Committee not to support the Council's submission that Nurse PractitionersTM should be authorized prescribers and Registered Nurses should be designated prescribers. A number of college members have been looking into the issue and Chris Cottingham rightly pointed out that Dr's, Dentists & Midwives are Authorised Prescribers, prescribing from an unlimited list [although there are some specific requirements]. This wouldn't make too much of a difference, except in the sense that we are allocated inferior status. When this does matter, is when the 'Collaborative Prescriber' comes into being. They 'collaborate' with Dr's Dentists &/or Midwives, i.e. 'Authorised' Prescribers. So prescribing nurses cannot work with other nurses. This arrangement & the addition of another layer of prescriber, risks confusion. Some members suggest that the College should support the initiative, in that this would empower a group of nurses in terms of what they can do. But it means that Collaborative' prescribers answer to & are subservient to Drs, reinforcing the power dynamic that I'm guessing most of us are not too happy with. All important points to think about, thanks for the researching Chris. Submissions due by April 13, so if you are interested in the issue

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY
4 APRIL 2007
1230 HOURS.

See info in this
issue

or want to take a lead to write a submission from the College tune into the email list.

This month's Enewsletter also profiles Anna Schofield's role as Nursing Leadership Manager at Te Pou. Anna will write regularly for the College to keep us up to date. Remember to check out the Te Pou website at <http://www.tepou.co.nz>

Presidents Comment

By Heather Casey

March already and as usual plenty happening within Mental Health and the College. The conference is getting closer and a recent update from the conference organisers indicated a large number of abstracts had been submitted and that they were going to have a difficult job selecting those that would be accepted as conference papers. Registration forms and conference programmes will be out soon so that will be the next exciting step for the organising committee.

Prior to Christmas Thelma Puckey and I met with a number of people in order to maintain and/or develop relationships that are important for the College. I have prepared a brief overview of the meetings here. The meetings mainly occurred in Wellington, with minimal cost to the College as I was in Wellington twice just prior to Christmas in my DHB work role and managed to arrange the meetings within these times. The only outstanding meeting date is Mark Jones who is proving to be more elusive. The people we did meet with were:

David Chaplow Mental Health Directorate

David welcomed the opportunity to meet with Thelma and me as representatives of the College. We gave a brief history of the College and the current set up of committee, branches practice boards and membership. We gave an overview of recent College work - the Taser position of the College and action to date and also the DAO section 9 practice guideline. We discussed Mental Health Sector Developments and throughout all the discussion Thelma and I were clear that the College expects to be consulted on matters related to MH nursing. We agreed to meet at least annually to update each other and discuss Mental Health sector developments and professional issues.

Glenn Barclay National PSA Policy Development

Thelma and I met with Glenn to build on the relationship that Glenn had with Tony O'Brien as President. Glenn provided an overview of how PSA is organized and the policy development role. We discussed the Memorandum of Understanding and the options for indemnity insurance. Glenn informed us that the PSA have agreed to \$5,000 sponsorship for the College Conference and that Collette Gordon from Otago will be the Council of Trade Unions MH nursing representative on the Core Competencies project working party. We agreed to meet annually to ensure the relationship is maintained.

Sandy Brimblecombe: Project Manager for MH Workforce Clinical training transition project.

Background: A consultation document was circulated to College members and committee for feedback. This document was accessed through the education sector. The College had not been consulted and this was of concern as the transition project concerns the new graduate MH Nursing programme and post graduate nursing and allied health programmes. Sandy was happy to meet at short notice with Thelma and I while I was in Wellington. We expressed concern at the consultation process and ensured that the College and other MH nursing groups concerned with workforce and training would be consulted in future. The outcomes from this project should be known soon as consultation occurred prior to Christmas.

Anna Schofield: Te Pou

Anna is employed by Te Pou as the Nursing Leadership Manager. One of her projects is progressing the National Mental Health Nursing framework. Anna traveled to Dunedin to talk with me about her new role and will contribute on a regular basis to the College Newsletter to ensure that Mental Health Nurses are kept updated.

Ruth Harrison: Chair of the Mental Health Commission

The Commission regularly consults with the College and has a College Member (Bev Hodder) on their clinical reference group. The value of the frequent communication with the College was discussed as was continuation of the MH Commission until 2015.

Robyn Shearer: Workforce Project Manager at Te Pou

Robyn outlined how Te Pou was structured. Te Pou is New Zealand's National Center of Mental Health Research and Workforce Development. They are based in Auckland and Hamilton, and have three work programmes Workforce, Research and MH-SMART. A number of projects were discussed as was the need to consult with the College on all projects that impact on Mental Health Nursing.

Overall a good round of meetings which positions the College well for 2007 in terms of relationships with key people and groups the College interacts with.

National Committee Meeting - 2007

The National Committee has had its first meeting for the year - the agenda was full and a range of topics were covered including:

- College submission to the confidential forum
- UK Nursing Registration - Inability of NZ MH nurses gaining UK registration
- Request to Dame Margaret Bazley to be College Patron (since accepted)
- Update on Huarahi Whakatu - the Maori Mental Health Nursing career Pathway
- Update on the College Conference - including process for becoming a Fellow of the College and Fellows ceremony at the Conference dinner. Special AGM has been notified.
- RN working in NGO sector - a letter identifying professional issues sent to Mental Health Directorate.
- How to take insights gained from College Conference into the College Strategic Plan from 2008
- Developing the Communication Strategy of College to the next level - the draft document will be circulated later this year.
- Initial discussions on how to form interest groups and media representatives for College on specific issues.

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2007, 1230 HOURS.**

This Special General Meeting is being called to make the constitutional changes required for fellowship in the College so as the first investiture can be held at the inaugural conference in July.

A quorum of 30 people is required for this constitutional change and the meeting will be via phone conference. The venues for each branch will be announced shortly. It is anticipated that this will be a short meeting. Your attendance is needed.

Message from the National Committee.

Profile

By Anna Schofield, Nursing Leadership Manager, Te Pou
anna.schofield@tepou.co.nz; M 0272-480-357; DDI 09 300 6855

I must start by thanking the College for inviting me to contribute to this month's newsletter. This gives me the opportunity to introduce me and my role at Te Pou.

Since October 2005 I have been in the new role of Nursing Leadership Manager at Te Pou, the National Centre of Mental Health Research and Workforce Development.

Te Pou has two key challenges:

- To build a strong and enduring workforce to deliver mental health services to all people
- To develop a culture of continuous quality improvement in which information and knowledge is welcomed and used to enhance recovery.

Workforce development aims to ensure that the right mental health and addiction practitioners are in the right place, at the right time to treat, care for and support service users and their family/whanau. The nursing workforce is high on the Ministry of Health's (MOH) workforce priorities. Nursing leadership work at Te Pou works with the MOH to ensure priorities and recommendations are implemented.

The Nursing Leadership role arises from Te Pou's challenges and uses Tauawhitia Te Wero the National Mental Health and Addiction workforce development plan, Te Tahuu the second National Mental Health and Addiction plan 2005 and Te Kokiri the Mental Health and Addictions action plan 2006-2015 to inform all workforce nursing initiatives.

An underpinning document for Nursing Leadership is Mental Health Nursing and its Future: a Discussion Framework (MOH 2005). Auckland University, with Helen Hamer leading the work, was contracted by the Mental Health Directorate, MOH in 2004 to develop a strategic framework for mental health and addiction nursing. This will ensure a nationally coordinated approach to mental health and addiction nursing. One of my key tasks is to coordinate the implementation of the nine recommendations from the Framework across District Health Boards and Non Government Organisations. The recommendations provide a national strategic framework for mental health and addiction nurses that will strengthen both nursing leadership and practice, and improve outcomes for people receiving services. Those recommendations include:

- Leadership
- Mental Health Nurse Practitioners
- Standards
- Skill Mix
- Clinical Career Pathways
- Professional Supervision
- Education
- Research
- Recruitment and Retention

The first initiative to come out of the Framework's recommendations is Professional Supervision. This piece of distinct research will be completed nationally first and determine the direction that the pilot will take. Supervision pilots will occur in two DHB's, one in the South and one in the North Island. Expressions of Interest will be asked for from DHB's that would like to pilot this exciting piece of work.



*Taranga Te Kumete
o
Te Ao Maramatanga*

The other concurrent piece of work is the quarterly e-newsletter "by nurses, for nurses", which I know every member of the College has subscribed to! The concept behind the newsletter is to give all nurses working in mental health and addictions the opportunity to hear what innovative things their colleagues are doing nationally, time to reflect on current nursing practices and their efficacy or not, and hear from service users both working in mental health and those who have accessed mental health services. The e-newsletter will also link with the College for an update on the work within the College.

So to finish off here is a little bit about my nursing career pathway. I graduated from AUT in Auckland at the end of 1995; having had mental health and addictions as my undergraduate focus. I spent seven years at Waitemata District Health Board again in Auckland in a variety of different nursing roles. My seven years began predictably with some years as a Staff Nurse in the Taharoto Acute Adult Mental Health Unit; I spent a good few years working as a Nurse Consultant in Liaison Psychiatry, with some days doing quality initiatives back with the Acute Mental Health Unit. Then I moved into the Clinical Nurse Educator role fulltime for a year. My last role at Waitemata and still within Taharoto was as Clinical Charge Nurse for around two years. At the end of 2003 my career veered to the left due to an opportunity arising to establish an alternative to hospital short stay facility (5 beds) in the community for young people presenting to services for the first time. The NGO is Mind Matter Charitable Trust in West Auckland. Moving into a manager's role within an NGO gave me a much broader perspective on Service Users recovery journeys and allowed for strong family/whanau perspective also.. In between all of the above I had some time working in the United Kingdom in a Day and Acute Hospital and Forensic Mental Health.

I look forward to utilising my experiences and knowledge of working alongside Service Users in a variety of nursing roles in the Nursing Leadership role at Te Pou. I have a real passion for building the capability and sustainability of the mental health and addiction nursing workforce and look forward to doing this in partnership with the College and its members.

CLINICAL SUPERVISORS

If you are an experienced mental health nurse, with excellent skills and training in clinical supervision - would you be interested in providing clinical supervision for a post graduate student undertaking an advanced mental health nursing paper as part of their Master of Nursing Programme? We are particularly interested in experienced supervisors who could work with Post Grad students living and working in Hamilton, Auckland, Hawkes Bay and Taranaki. The ability to work alongside an individual student or someone with talents in group clinical supervision would be appreciated. The supervision would be paid. Alternatively if you know of an excellent supervisor that we could approach that would be very much appreciated. Please contact Stacey Wilson at Massey University, S.Wilson@massey.ac.nz

Membership News (renewing your membership)

By Brian Phillips

Registrar

A number of members have asked about the renewal process; in particular the length of time for processing renewals. Renewals can be paid by regular installments (e.g. payroll deduction) or annual payments. A number of different processes are involved in the two types of payment. I shall try and explain some of this below.

If membership payments are made by regular installment, I simply send you a letter each year thanking you for your continuing membership. Easy! If payments have ceased (or I cannot find them!) I then send a letter notifying payment is due to your last known address.

Every couple of months I send out renewal letters to members paying annually as their payments become due, with payment forms. Again, to the member's last known address.

If I do not receive a payment before the member becomes nonfinancial (i.e. overdue by more than 90 days) I send a reminder letter and notify the branch that they have become nonfinancial. At this point I also remove members from the College Journal list.

Payment by cheque or credit card is sent by members to the College mail box. This process becomes drawn out as we live in different parts of the North and South Islands and undertake our roles in our spare time. The process looks like this: when the Secretary receives the renewal in the mail it is bundled every couple of weeks and forwarded to me. I then enter the payment in the online database and then send payments on to the Treasurer for receipting; again by mail. Receipts are then returned to me to send to members with an acknowledgement letter. If a membership card needs to be issued, I send a batch of requests to the manufacturer at the end of each month. Because there are also other tasks, I only do renewals every second or third week.

As you can see, from the time a member sends in their renewal payment to the time they receive their receipt will be in excess of four weeks. Be patient; the work is all voluntary. I do not mind answering an email if you are worried your payment has gone astray admin@nzcmhn.org.nz

Alzheimer's (NZ) Conference

By Robyn Peel

Manager Services and Information, Alzheimer's New Zealand National Office

Ph: 04 381 2362 Fax: 04 381 2365 Mobile: 021 1454724

Level 3, 15 Courtenay Pl, PO Box 3643, Wellington

Website: www.alzheimers.org.nz

Alzheimer's New Zealand is hosting their National conference in Wellington in April 2007. The theme for the conference is *Dementia Across the Ages*. This looks at dementia across time (past, present and future) and dementia across different age groups (such as how children are affected and younger-onset dementia).

They will have four international dementia experts as keynote speakers. One of these keynote speakers is Professor Rhonda Nay, who is the Professor of Gerontologic Nursing at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. She should be of interest to nurses as she will be talking about quality dementia care. More details about Professor Nay and the other keynote speakers can be found on the website - www.alzheimers.org.nz/conference.php

***Alzheimer's New Zealand 20th Anniversary (1986-2006)
Alzheimer's Centenary - 100 Years of Alzheimer's disease***

A FRESH LOOK AT NURSING IN THE MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS SECTOR IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

19 & 20th July 2007

Venue Novotel in Hamilton

Conference organisers: Six Hats: Amanda Graham

The Waikato Branch is organising the inaugural conference for Te Ao Maramatanga.

Organising Committee

Convenor: Suzette Gisler

Secretary: Denny Mc Nae

Jeff Symonds, Karin Haganaars, Heidi Steyn, Robyn Boladeras, Mark Smith, Tio Sewell (Maori Caucus)

The College Boards

The three Boards are Professional Practice, Research, and Education. The purpose of the Boards is to promote, support and develop the professional practice of psychiatric mental health nurses in the three key areas. In time this will allow the College to be responsive to professional issues.

Regional News

Auckland Branch

Tony O'Brien

The Auckland Branch of the College is to hold a seminar to discuss the recent High Court rulings related to the DAO role. These rulings have legal and professional implications for mental health nurses, especially as they appear to exclude nurses from the definition of "concerned with the welfare of the patient". However, they make it possible to include just about anyone else in the process of explaining the use of the Mental Health Act. There are issues of privacy and consent for a third-party (someone who is not a health professional) to be part of this process. There are also issues of pressure on family members to participate, and issues of safety where the presentation of the Section 9 certificate is a matter of some urgency. Invited speakers to this forum include Barbara Foster (former DAMHS, currently ADON); Terry Debenham, Leigh Brash, Prue Free (District Inspector), and a service user spokesperson.

Waikato Branch

Compiled by Jeff Symonds, Branch President

Greetings from the Waikato. Our branch is busy with the preparations for the July conference and it is good to see some good sponsorship coming through to support the much needed financial base, (pew!). Suzette Gisler our local DoN is doing a great job here. The key note speakers are all confirmed with some great pre-conference workshops, abstracts are also looking good.

Just a little on our local structure, for instance hatched from an idea Tio Sewell (Te Runanga) had our branch meetings are amalgamated with the DHB's mental health nurses forum which is good as it helps create that professional ambience so to speak to nursing practice. The forums often have guest speakers who speak on a range of challenging subjects, e.g., ethics. We have been considering using debate as another method of creating energy around specific subjects, e.g. the police use of tasers.

As we are all aware there are a number of new initiatives coming into the mental health world which may rattle the matrix a little, i.e., community based acute care as an alternative to hospital admission, consumer trainers in risk assessment, these are examples of interesting developments that we need to discuss and have a part in helping shaping this future. I hope our inaugural conference with its theme "a fresh look at MH nursing in Aotearoa/NZ" will be a key platform for all to share ideas and move forward with our understanding to help us as mental health nurses form a vital role in this country's future mental health services.

Canterbury Branch

Report by Gail Phillips

No news from the Canterbury Branch again this month. The Branch continues to try to regather momentum. Could current members/potential or interested parties please indicate your interest in being actively involved this year to Gail Phillips at phillipsg@cpit.ac.nz or 0212069394. There is a small group who have identified they will attend the teleconference this week. Please contact Gail if you are keen to join them.

National Information Service and Resource Centre Coordinator
Mental Health Foundation NZ

www.mentalhealth.org.nz; kim@mentalhealth.org.nz

Kim Higginson DD (09) 300 7038

The Resource and Information Centre is located at 81 New North Road, Eden Terrace, Auckland. Open to the public from 9.00am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. Resource Centre Phone (09) 300 7030.

Working to improve the mental health of all people and communities in New Zealand

Coming events

Thursday 26 April 2007 - Saturday 28 April 2007, Wellington

Alzheimer's New Zealand National Conference

Dementia Across the Ages

Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington

Phone: 04 381 2362

Email: nationaloffice@alzheimers.org.nz

Website: www.alzheimers.org.nz/conference.php

30 April - 2 May 2007, Rotorua

Enhancing our Com(mon)unity: social inclusion, mental health and recovery

Standards Plus & Mental Health Commission

For more details contact StandardsPlus@imaginebetter.co.nz

27 May - 1 June 2007, Yokohama, Japan

ICN International Conference

Nurses at the Forefront: Dealing with the Unexpected

Contact: <http://www.icn.ch/conference2007>

June 25 - 30, 2007, Italy

30th International Congress on Law and Mental Health: University of Padua.

Includes nursing papers. For further info see www.ialmh.org

Fri 17th & Sat 18th August 2007, Gold Coast Australia

The 8th International Mental Health Conference

Submit Abstracts - Closing date is the 20th of February 2007

Contact: <http://gcimh.com.au/conference/Default.htm>

Thursday 28 & Friday 29 June 2007, Wellington

Workforce Action: Ready for the Future

Date: Venue: Wellington Convention Centre This major national conference is the first to be organised by DHB's and the Ministry of Health as part of the 'Future Workforce' programme. The conference will cover the future health workforce in New Zealand and internationally. It will be a chance to talk and learn about workforce activity, support network development, and explore / share ideas on building a future workforce. <http://www.moh.govt.nz/>

26th - 28th September 2007, Oxford, England

13th International NPNR (Network for Psychiatric Nursing Research) Conference

Researching beyond the boundaries...

Call for abstracts until 23 March, 2007. Contact Sheavaune.Fox@rcn.org.uk

8th - 12th October 2007 • CAIRNS
33rd Annual International Conference of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Inc.

Call for Abstracts: Closing date for abstract submission - 23 March 2007
<http://astmanagement.com.au/anzcmhc7/>

HRC Pacific Health Forum: (previously known as HRC Pacific Health Research Fono)

For more details email dalofivae@hotmail.com or nwchmantou@hrc.govt.nz

14th - 18th October 2007 ROTORUA

Aotearoa Network of Indigenous Health Knowledge & Development Trust (ANIHKD) Conference.

Visit: www.conference.co.nz/INIHKD2007 for more information. Noho ora mai Seilena Phillips Office Administrator Te Kaunihera O Nga Neehi Maori (National Council of Maori Nurses)
tekaunihera@slgroup.co.nz www.maorihealth.co.nz

Share your knowledge with the College:
Contact Samantha: samratkel@hotmail.com with coming events

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MelanieG@healthotago.co.nz

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Coming Events: Sam Kelly samratkel@hotmail.com

Change of Address

Please notify the Registrar of changes to mailing &/or emailing addresses.

E-mail: admin@nzcmhn.org.nz

NOTIFY THE REGISTRAR OF CHANGES TO YOUR EMAIL AND MAILING ADDRESS