President’s Message

Dearest ISPN members,

In this column of Winter Connections, I want to talk with you about community and connections, two strategic goals that your active Board of Directors has addressed since our Summer issue.

Community:

We have made a major change in ISPN infrastructure with the bylaws change in 2015. The new structure, the Academic of Psychiatric Nursing, which continues to be the voice of psychiatric research and practice.

- We have two Special Interest Group (SIG) formats: 1) Psychiatric Consultation-Liaison Advanced Nursing Practice (PCLN) 2) Psychiatric Mental Health Practice (PMHP). Please ensure that there are SIGs that resonate with you to join, and I hope to hear from you.

- We have established a SIGs Committee of Experts with its members, and SIGs leaders to communicate our knowledge.

- I appointed a Communications Initiative Task Force with Dr. Andrea Kwasky as chair to review new ways to implement being a visible and viable voice for psychiatric mental health nursing.

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All Invited to Join the ISPN Special Interest Group (SIG) for Psychiatric Consultation-Liaison Advanced Nursing Practice

By Marilyn J. Shirk, MN, RN, CNS-BC, ISPN Board Member

Peggy Dulaney took the lead and initiated a proposal for a Special Interest Group (SIG) on Psychiatric Consultation-Liaison Advanced Nursing Practice. She recruited other ISPN colleagues, and sought and attained board approval for the first ISPN SIG on December 3, 2015.

Our newly approved SIG aims to:

- Engage, promote, and facilitate sharing of ideas, best practices, and opportunities among ISPN members who are interested in aspects of psychiatric consultation-liaison advanced nursing practice and
- Generate a network for members to develop professionally, collaborate on projects, exchange ideas, disseminate information, and produce research.

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We are thrilled to have Julie Sharrock as our international guest contributor!

From Australia: An International Perspective: Role Theory Using ‘Play of Life’ Figures

By Julie Sharrock, RN, Bachelor Nurs Grad, Cert Care Geri, Psych Nurs Grad, BSc(AHSc Psych Nurs); Adv. Dip Geriatric Therapy, TAFEQld, MHN; ISPN; Credentialed MVN

Hello to fellow ISPN members and greetings from Australian mental health nurses.

I believe the opportunity to work with colleagues in the U.S. and internationally in my chosen area of PCLN position. I am pleased to be able to give you a small insight into my working world “down-under.”

As you know it’s summer in Australia, and at the end of the year brings changes as well as a period where many nurses from overseas, hospital management, and ISPN members look for January to be a low activity period. However, in my experience, working in a PCLN role January does not resemble low activity. While the predominant insight I have is the critical and holistic nature of making and delivering care for colleagues in healthcare and to their families. It is a particularly vitally important time for those with service health problems who may be lonely and isolated. Adding to this, their professional supports may be on vacation leaving them isolated and vulnerable. I always notice an increase in post-mass suicide attempts presentations in general hospitals of this holiday period. I usually work in January as well as during the last week of December. I believe my colleagues to request the holiday “low activity period” in 2016. I will continue to be involved in my roles as a passionate PCLN advocate and clinical supervision. Over the last few years I have come to realize the role of the psychotherapist in the clinical supervisory practice relationships, The Dal, & Avent, (2015).

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And Finally... a Brief Note From Our Exalted ISPN Foundation

The ISPN Foundation Reception and Auction during the Annual Conference is the primary means by which we obtain funds to support efforts to achieve the world goals of ISPN.

- Join us on Thursday, April 14, 2016, 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., in the 4th Floor Atrium at the Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, MN. The annual reception and auction will be held from 6:15 to 7:45 and cash bar from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Tickets are $100.

- Another way to support the Foundation: Donate as late as the Live Auction. All contributions are welcome, including products that promote your colleagues professionally and personally.

The ISPN Foundation is the charitable arm of ISPN. The Foundation raises funds to provide grants to encourage research, particularly for fellows/researchers needing initial funding. In addition, we provide travel grants to members and students, enabling them to advance our mission by disseminating information about scholarships, awards, and grants for 2016 can be found here:

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- Donations are tax-deductible. The ISPN Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, ISPN Foundation, 2424 American Lane, • Madison, WI 53704 USA

- View our website: ISPN Foundation Board

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Connections

Editorial Board

Board Chair: Dr. Mary M. Pantenburg

Visit the website:

ISPN Foundation Board

Through our partnerships, the ISPN Foundation is an important voice for psychiatric mental health nursing. Through a multitude of partnerships, the ISPN Foundation is an important voice for psychiatric mental health nursing. Through a multitude of partnerships, the ISPN Foundation is an important voice for psychiatric mental health nursing.