



NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSES

CONNECTIONS

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From the President - June 2009

Greetings to all ISPN members! As the new president, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recap our Annual Conference, held last month in Greenville, South Carolina, and discuss some of the plans for the coming year. I begin by thanking **Dr. Geri Pearson**, our now past-president, for her service to the organization. For the last several years, Geri has given her undivided attention to the needs of the ISPN and its membership. She exquisitely understood ISPN's mission and purpose and assured that the organization stayed on course and moved forward the agendas of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses and the Health Care issues that impact their clients. I also extend warm appreciation to our other outgoing Board Members; **Drs. Jane Neese** (SERPN), **Linda Dugan-Stephan** (ACAPN) and **Pam Galehouse** (Secretary/Treasurer). Certainly their attention to the needs of their divisions and its members made a significant contribution to fulfilling the mission of ISPN.

I begin by thanking **Dr. Geri Pearson**, our now past-president, for her service to the organization.

...the 2009 Annual Conference and Psychopharmacology Institute were a success...

By all measures, the 2009 Annual Conference and Psychopharmacology Institute were a success; both had strong enrollment and excellent preliminary feedback. If you would like to view the full program it is still posted on the ISPN website (www.ispn-psych.org). Special thanks to the entire Conference Committee, chaired by **Edilma Yearwood**, with able assistance from co-chairs, **Sally Raphael**, **Judy Hirsh**, and five committee members (**Candy Dato**, **Peggy Dulaney**, **Ernest Lapierre**, **Sandra Nelson** and **Ellen**

Rindner). We also recognize our group of 16 abstract reviewers that had the difficult job of choosing the final roster of 60 conference papers and 37 posters.

The conference kicked off with the Second Annual Psychopharmacology Institute that addressed recent research in all aspects of psychopharmacology; from the cellular level to the clinical practice arena. The Co-directors of the Institute, **Susan Krupnick** and **Evelyn Parrish**, teamed with a committee of eight (**Judy Coucouvanis**, **Linda Dugan-Stephan**, **Peggy Dulaney**, **Geri Pearson**, **Diane Snow**, **Victoria Soltis-Jarrett**, **Mary Weber** and **Edilma Yearwood**) to provide speakers who addressed a wide range of disorders that covered the life-span. The second day of the Institute focused on prescribing and the practice dilemmas PMH-Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) deal with as they treat complex patients. The Institute ended with a special session on sleep, presented by Dr. Geoff McEnany, which underscored the key role of sleep hygiene in individuals' well-being and recovery. Consistent with ISPN's tradition, the Annual Conference offered a rich selection of concurrent papers, as well as workshops and excellent keynote speakers/plenary sessions. The papers demonstrated the scope of PMH practice, education and research and the innovations that will move our field forward. Indeed, the tone of innovation was set by our first keynote; Dr. Gail Stuart, who challenged the attendees to develop

models for consumer-community driven, competency-based education. The path to innovation via the National Health Care Agenda was explored by **Dr. Ronald Manderscheid**, who laid out the current trends in health care reform and their implications for Psychiatric-Mental Health Service delivery. The slides of Dr Manderscheid's presentation and supporting materials can be found on the ISPN website. They are an excellent road map for understanding Health Care Reform and the implications for PMH nursing. Thanks and congratulations to the Melva Jo Hendrix lecturer, **Dr Jaclene A. Zauszniewski**, who took a creative approach to the notion of mentorship. Her subtheme, "A Time to Dance" was elaborated with a musical accompaniment that brought the entire audience into the rhythm of her message.

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From the President
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The conference is also a time to recognize our colleagues, particularly at the Awards Ceremony. Please see the article on our Award winners in this issue of *Connections*, written by **Dr. Rica O'Connor**, who for the past several years has organized our awards; we are so grateful for her sustained effort. Also in this issue, you will find a list of our Poster Award winners; thanks to our Research Chair, **Dr. Rick Yakimo**, for organizing our poster competition. In *Connections* you will also see a report from the ISPN-Foundation which supports many of ISPN's research efforts. As always, the Foundation dinner and auction were a highlight of the conference. Finally, special recognition to our local hostess, **Peggy Dulaney**, who put a rich Southern welcome to the conference and along with The Rees Group, Inc. assured that every detail was attended to and the group had a relaxing but stimulating experience.

At the conference, the Board met for several hours and mapped out our priorities and projects for the coming year. The new strategic plan will be posted on the ISPN website in the coming month. In this plan, you will see a return to our core mission of supporting the work of specialty PMH nurses and helping them forge connections with their colleagues so they might advance issues of mutual interest. We plan on using our website to help us forge these connections and to that end have re-constituted our website committee who will oversee updating the website and building new platforms for communication among members. We will continue to focus on positively affecting healthcare policy, particularly issues of affordable access to mental health care services. The Board has created a new Social Policy Task Force which will target areas where ISPN can create impact. The Diversity committee will focus on another core ISPN purpose; the promotion of

As always, the Foundation dinner and auction were a highlight of the conference.

equitable quality health care for individuals and families with mental health problems, (please read their report in this issue). All of the Divisions have plans for this year, and I encourage you to become involved in your Division projects, committees or the work of the councils. This issue of *Connections* also has news about our work with the team of Behavioral Health Care and our project with the American Academy of Nursing. It is an exciting year as we face the challenge of Health Care Reform. I am confident that we can use our connectivity in ISPN to generate ideas and solutions that can be carried forth to initiatives that will improve services for clients, generate innovative education of our workforce, and support the research that will build the science of the specialty.

-Kathleen R. Delaney, PhD, PMHNP
President, ISPN

ISPN Foundation Report

The ISPN Foundation wishes to thank all of the members who have contributed to the Foundation this year. We raised well over \$4,000 during the conference from the Foundation event, the silent auction, and contributions to the Foundation. Without contributions from our members, we would not have been able to provide the two research grants, the Hertha Gast Award to **Beth Bonham** for "Parental Perspective of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention" and the ISPN Foundation Research Award to **Sandra Gibson** for "Interpersonal Violence Among Late Adolescent African-American (Black) Males." We will look forward to hearing from our grant winners at the conference either next year or the year afterwards. In addition, we were able to give graduate student nursing awards to **Kathrene Berger** and **Deborah Townsend** and a conference scholarship to an international member, **Julie Sharrock**.

The ISPN Foundation Board has been working diligently during the 2008-2009 fiscal year to try to increase the Foundation's reserves and attempting to

generate enough reserves to begin an endowment fund. An endowment is a larger fund which is used to generate income; generally the principal money is not withdrawn, only interest which is then used to fund the Foundation activities, such as grants and conference scholarships. Because we are also trying to provide some grant funding and conference scholarship currently, building an endowment is difficult unless corporate funding can be obtained. We have been contacting various vendors who support psychiatric nursing in some way and trying to build a relationship with them. Needless to say, this is not a skill that comes naturally to many of us and while we have not received any corporate contributions to date, it is by keeping in touch and keeping our needs before these vendors. If you have a relationship with a vendor from a drug company, someone who provides CEU materials for nurses, vendors such as the Posey Company, etc., you may be in a great position to help the Foundation out. We have developed a brochure to be used with these vendors

which we will be glad to send to you if you need it. But, think about making the request to that vendor. All they can say is "no" but if we don't ask, we will never receive enough funds for an endowment! Another new initiative of the Foundation Board was a pledge card for donations which we premiered at the conference. This allows a member to make a small donation regularly and work toward a goal for their annual gift without feeling the pinch in their wallet all at once. For example, a pledge of \$10 a month toward a goal of \$100 could be easily met by the member during the year. If you have not made a pledge, please consider doing so.

The Foundation will be meeting in June and will begin planning for the coming fiscal year. If you have specific ideas or suggestions for the Foundation Board, please forward them to me by e-mail at kscharer@bellsouth.net. We would appreciate hearing from you!

-Kathy Scharer, PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN
President, ISPN Foundation Board

ACAPN Award – Kathy Delaney

Kathy was described as “a model of excellence.” Her career blends clinical practice (and leadership), education, and research – while also demonstrating service and leadership to the specialty and the profession. She was described as uniquely able to balance these roles skillfully and with excellence, earning her the respect and fondness of nursing colleagues and health care professionals of many disciplines. Kathy is at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

ISPCLN Leadership Award – Ann Robinette

Ann’s career in psychiatric-mental health nursing spans 40 years in a wide range of practice arenas. Her nominators emphasized her phenomenal leadership in the development of the liaison-consultation role and its place in nursing organization over the decades. Colleagues find Ann’s personal characteristics a source of inspiration for their personal lives. Ann lives in North Carolina, where she engages in private practice, nursing education, and consultation.

SERP (Jeanette Chamberlain) Award – Geri Pearson

Geri’s nominators emphasized her fantastic leadership that has kept ISPN moving forward in multiple ways. Among the successes are the forging of a productive relationship with APNA, which has resulted in several national projects, including treatment of youth in the juvenile justice system in ways designed to reduce recidivism. She brings a warm zeal and intelligence to all efforts. Geri is from Connecticut, where she teaches in the Department of Psychiatry, and directs a homecare program for youth and a child and adolescent outpatient clinic.

ISPN Clinical Practice Award – Marilyn Shirk

Marilyn is a mental health clinical specialist, nursing liaison at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in LA. Her primary focus is the well-being of the caregiver popula-

tion at the hospital, with the ultimate goal of enhancing patient and family focused care. She is recognized for her expertise in health care ethics, and she develops excellence in nursing care through work with the Magnet program at Cedars-Sinai. She created her current position in 1984 and has been promoting caregiving excellence in this advanced practice role ever since.

ISPN Education Award – Teresa Steele

Teresa’s nursing career spans 50 years, 40 of them in nursing education. She is soon to retire from her position as Dean of the School of Health and Director of the Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nursing Program at Husson University in Bangor, ME. To meet the needs of rural nurses, she long ago instituted a program that met on alternate weekends and also involved interactive compressed video. She established the APPN program, which has already graduated 61 PMH nurses, most of whom continue to serve locally or in the remote regions of Northern and Down East, ME. A nominator commented that Teresa teaches through the power of her example, demonstrating empathy, caring, a clear perspective, and ability to listen with complete respect.

After presenting the awards, I (Rica O’Connor) was asked if I would make available the tribute to Teresa from the Lebanese Husson graduate that was too emotional to describe in detail from the podium. An edited portion follows. Its author is Jouhayna Bajjani, PMHCNS-BC.

“After I left Husson University... I was the first CNS in the country to be hired by the American University of Beirut Medical Center. There are many things Dr. Steele helped me out with [during the next six years – by email].”

“During the July, 2006 war... I was living where bombing and shelling were taking place, resulting in massive human and material casualties. ... it was very difficult for me to help others heal when I myself was in the

midst of the war zone... I was emailing (Dr. Steele) daily, as she provided me with... support... and an avenue to ventilate and thus continue to be therapeutic... I remember I was consulted by the ICU team to provide psychiatric consultation services to the mother of four children, who was massively burnt herself, and who had lost all four of her children due to a bomb that caused their building to collapse. That client did not know her children had died and my role was to help her cope with that information as soon as her family told her this devastating news. I was not able to see that client on the same day, as I was crying. I emailed Dr. Steele for support and she sure did come through! It was with Dr. Steele’s guidance and support that I was able to face that client the next day and then continued to work with her for months.”

ISPN Research Award – Mona Shattell

Mona’s research has strong roots in practice. The focus of her work is the experience of psychiatric patienthood. The premise is that accurate understanding is basic to maximally therapeutic value caregiving. Mona’s newest work focuses on mental health service needs of Spanish-speaking Latina women. Mona has been a very productive researcher who disseminates her work widely and is a prodigious mentor of graduate students, among whom she has fostered a high rate of publications and presentations. Mona is a faculty member of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

ISPN Diversity Award – Roberta Waite

Roberta’s work focuses on depression and adult ADHD in African-American women. Her work improves the mental and physical health of her patients and includes efforts to dispel reluctance African-American women may feel toward counseling. At Drexel University (Philadelphia), Roberta is described as an

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inspiration for both students and faculty – as a role model for culturally sensitive teaching, research, and practice. Roberta facilitates self-reflection and cultural sensitivity that imparts a sense of global empathy and cultural competence among both graduate and undergraduate students. Students who participated in this nomination describe how much bigger their world view became as a result of participating in Roberta's courses.

Melva Jo Hendrix Lectureship Award

The 2009 lecturer (identified in 2008) was **Jaclene A. Zauszniewski**, whose Friday morning presentation was titled, *Mentoring and Being Mentored: A Time to Dance*. (Yes, Jaclene is a dancer! This was intriguing news to many of us.) Jaclene's energetic and imaginative presentation focused on the dance of arful mentoring in nursing, to provide and/or receive what is needed to move toward expert competence in our important roles. Jaclene is from Case Western, in Cleveland.

The 2010 lecturer was also identified. Her nominator wrote that there are many examples from the nominee's career that demonstrate her great commitment to the underserved, stigmatized, or disenfranchised, and her dedication to mentoring others, particularly newer faculty members. The nominee is nearing the end of her active career, having retired from full-time status. Next year we will recognize her for her generous attitude and many wonderful contributions to the profession we love so well. Who is it? **Charlotte Herrick**, from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Awards Committee Members: **Karen Boardman, Beth Bonham, Charlotte Herrick, Judith McCormick, Rica O'Connor, Mary Paquette, Sally Raphel, and Celeste Shawler.**

ISPN ACCOLADES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Ann Robinette** for being presented the ISPCLN Division Leadership Award at the ISPN Awards program in Greenville, South Carolina. Ann was acknowledged for her long-standing commitment to both PCLN practice and the organizational development of ISPCLN and then the process of moving toward a consolidation of three organizations that became ISPN. Ann was instrumental in the founding of both ISPCLN as the ANA Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing special interest group was disbanded during the ANA reorganization. Additionally, Ann has been a practicing PCLN for many years and has mentored several colleagues into PCLN practice.

Congratulations to **Marilyn Shirk** for being presented the ISPN Clinical Practice Award at the ISPN Awards program in Greenville, South Carolina. Marilyn has been a practicing PCLN for numerous years and has been presented awards for her outstanding clinical practice from several organizations. She has

been a Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nursing Liaison at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles for many years and has mentored several nurses to pursue further education in the area of PCLN practice and psychiatric mental health nursing in general.

Congratulations to **Susan Krupnick** for being presented the Partners in Excellence Award from the Partners Healthcare System on April 15, 2009 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Susan was nominated by two of her physician colleagues at Massachusetts General Hospital, for her innovative work with patients who present to the emergency department with substance abuse and addictive illness. Drs. O'Connell and Perri from Boston Healthcare from the Homeless and were her nominators and wrote about her ability to turn around the care to the homeless patient in the emergency department and "treating the patients with dignity and respect."



Join us for another year of professional development and fellowship. **ISPN** remains strong because of your membership support. ***Renew today!***

Membership year
July 1, 2009 –
June 30, 2010

APNA/ISPN Collaboration around Child Mental Health Survey: Results

In Autumn, 2006, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), ISPN, and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) began talks around the certifications and numbers of Psychiatric Mental Health (PMH) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) that were credentialed to treat children and adolescents. Recognizing the shortage of child mental health providers and the tremendous need for services, the organizations saw the need to study the issue, and formed a task force: The Child, Adolescent, Family, PMH APRN Certification Task Force. ISPN and APNA solicited member involvement and initiated a 13 member task force which was charged with gathering data on the current practice of the PMH APRN workforce, with a particular focus on care of children and adolescents. This group developed a survey which was distributed via email to all certified PMH-APRNs who had registered

emails with ANCC, (6,184 PMH-APRNs). Of these surveys, 1,605 were returned as undeliverable, 2,010 APRNs responded, resulting in 1,899 usable surveys. The resulting data represent the most recent and complete description of PMH-APRN practice. The reports are now published in the *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*. Briefly these data indicate that nearly 93% of respondents provide direct services to clients with mental health issues; that 72% of child scope APRNs prescribe (versus 66.5% of those with adult scope certifications); and that APRNs use a wide variety of therapies, particularly cognitive behavioral. There are two published reports on the survey, the first is a broad overview of all certified PMH-APRNs, the second by **Drs. Sandra Weiss and Sandra Talley** take an in-depth comparison at APRNs who provide services to children. The email link to both papers is below.

Additional papers from the survey will be published in the coming year. I would like to recognize the survey members. **Myself** and **Dr Barbara Drew** served as co-chairs, the task force included Julie Carbray, **Valerie Glass**, Edna Hamera, Patty McCoy, **Diane Snow, Sandy Talley**, Diane Thompkins, **Sandra Weiss, Edilma Yearwood**, and from ANCC, Patricia Yoder-Wise. To view the abstract of the National Survey of Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing: Development, Process, and Finding and A Comparison of the Practices of Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialists and Nurse Practitioners Who Are Certified to Provide Mental Health Care for Children and Adolescents, visit:

<http://jap.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/15/2/111>

-Kathleen R. Delaney, PhD, PMHNP

Diversity and Equity Committee Update

The Diversity and Equity Committee had a spirited and fruitful meeting at the end of the 2009 ISPN conference in Greenville, South Carolina. The meeting was attended by a mixture of new and returning Committee members, with 14 people in attendance. The group was very energized by the accomplishment of two major goals from last year, and the interest shown in the Committee by attendees at this year's conference. To begin with, we urge all members to review the completed, and Board approved, ISPN Statement on Reparative Therapy which is now available on the ISPN website. In addition, members of the Committee have completed a draft Position Statement on Female Genital Mutilation which will be sent to the Board shortly for review and approval. Once approved, it will be made available to our members and other interested mental health professionals. Of note, we could find no

other psychiatric nursing organization that has taken a stand against this practice. The Committee plans to approach other nursing groups to encourage them to endorse and support our Position Papers on both of these critical issues, as they have profound mental health implications that cross gender, race, age, socio-economic status and ethnicity indicators.

The goals for 2009-2010 that the Committee will work on include:

- Developing a listserv to support ongoing dialogue about Diversity and Equity issues
- Exploring collaborative relationships with other nursing organizations around topics that are of mutual interest
- Having dialogue around mental health issues specific to immigrants and refugees in order to better under-

stand the unique needs of this population. This process can inform future presentations and gaps in research and practice.

- Soliciting presentations for our annual conference that address diversity and equity issues in psychiatric-mental health practice.
- Explore feasibility of having a Diversity and Equity Issues track throughout the 2010 conference and a more concerted effort to attract more International presentations.
- Ensuring that the ISPN bylaws are revised to include the Diversity and Equity Committee as a standing Committee within the organization.

My thanks to all who attended the Committee meeting and volunteered to work on these issues.

-Edilma L. Yearwood, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN

AAN, ISPN and APNA Taskforce Draft Essential Psychiatric, Mental Health and Substance Use Competencies for the Generalist Nurse

During the ISPN Conference in Greenville, SC, **Margaret Brackley**, **Mona Shattell** and **Catherine Kane** presented the complete *Draft of the Essential Psychiatric, Mental Health and Substance Use Competencies for the Generalist Nurse* to the membership at the last session of the conference.

The original concept for this document was conceived at the meeting of the Psychiatric Mental Health Expert Panel during the Academy of Nursing 33rd Annual Meeting and Conference, Integrating Physical and Mental Health Care, held in Miami, Florida, on November 9-11, 2006. Judith Haber and June Horowitz co-chaired the Expert Panel meeting where the need was identified for a document that centralized the recognized competencies and curricula associated with psychiatric mental health nursing practice. The Expert Panel also recognized the need for a document that identified psychiatric mental health competencies for generalist nursing practice. **Catherine Kane** and **Margaret Brackley** agreed to Co-Chair a taskforce to write these competencies. They were joined by **Madeline Naegle**, **Sandra Talley**, **Marian**

Newton, **Jeanne Clement**, **Pat D'Antonio**, and **Liz Poster**. Three major factors influenced the decision to write this document. First, NCLEX had reduced the number of PMH questions in the licensing exam, based on a role study that indicated that new graduates did not work in psychiatric settings. Second, the high morbidity and mortality rates of populations with serious mental illness; and third, the Essentials documents were being developed by the AACN.

The initial group was charged with using "a model similar to the Hartford Foundation model for building capacity in geriatric nursing to develop PMH/Behavioral Health Competencies for non-PMH RNs and APRNs." Other contributing members of the Taskforce are Edna Hamera, **Elizabeth LeCuyer**, **Mona Shattell**, **Geri Pearson**, **Rebecca Harmon** and **Theodora Sirota**. The Taskforce convened by teleconference on April 13, 2007, and met monthly by teleconference through Fall 2008. A full draft of the document was completed and sent for editing to **Geri Pearson** and **Beth Cole**. On March 24, 2009, the Taskforce convened by teleconference and agreed

to distribute the draft to the membership of the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses (ISPN), the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), and the Boards of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF).

The draft will be posted within the next month on the ISPN website through August, 2009. In addition, the draft will be posted on the APNA website.

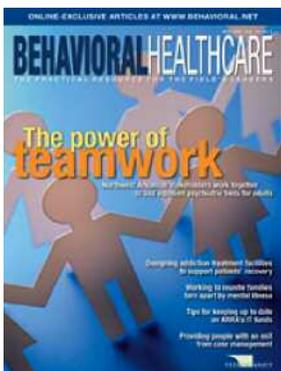
Comments, suggestions, edits and revisions are welcome and can be sent by email to:

Catherine Kane
[cck9m@virginia.edu] and/or
Margaret Brackley
[Brackley@uthscsa.edu].

PLEASE WRITE:
"RN PMH Competencies"
in the subject line of the email.

We thank you in advance for any and all feedback!

-Catherine Kane, PhD, RN, FAAN



Behavioral Healthcare for Members

ISPN members will soon be receiving a copy of the interdisciplinary practice-based journal *Behavioral Healthcare*. Behavioral Healthcare (BHC) reports on mental health issues, unique practice models and applications across mental health settings. The editors of BHC have expressed interest in articles about innovative practice models from the perspective of psych-mental health nursing. This is a unique opportunity to promote the roles and practice of staff and advanced practice psych-mental health nursing outside of our discipline. Please consider submitting a manuscript about your practice to BHC. Additional information about BHC and manuscript submission is available at www.behavioral.net, or you may contact our liaison to BHC, **Dr. Laura C. Hein** at Hein@sc.edu.

ACAPN Division Update

Elizabeth Bonham, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC
bethbonham@coopsonline.com

The annual meeting of the ACAPN Division was called to order by newly elected Division Director, Beth Bonham, on Friday, April 3, 2009, in Greenville, SC. More than 30 members attended. Thanks is given to outgoing ACAPN Director, **Linda Dugan Stephan**. I want to recognize outgoing ISPN Board and ACAPN members **Geri Pearson**, President and **Pam Galehouse**, Secretary/Treasurer for their outstanding work on the ISPN Board of Directors the past two years. An extraordinary Annual Conference was chaired this week by ACAPN member **Edilma Yearwood**. Well done! And we welcome our new ISPN President, **Kathy Delaney**, also a longtime and active ACAPN member. We are excited by the continuing involvement of ACAPN members in ISPN governance.

Let me introduce myself. I am a longtime member of ACAPN having been president of ACAPN when the then four psychiatric nursing organizations began discussions about joining together as one group. I was the first ACAPN Division Director when ISPN formed and am pleased to be involved at this level 10 years later! I am currently an assistant professor at the University of Louisville School of Nursing where I try to inspire students to mental health nursing and research mental health issues of youthful offenders.

After introductions, the group was asked to identify ACAPN's priorities for the next year. Members are concerned that the specialty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing remains an unknown entity not only to the public but also to other nurses and mental health providers. Several strategies were mentioned: 1) Those members who are university faculty, discuss the specialty with other nursing classes and university departments; 2) each member research a professional group outside of ACAPN/ISPN (for example, NAPNAP) and submit an

abstract for a national presentation at that group's conference; and 3) submit a manuscript to a non-nursing journal or magazine. Members are encouraged to let us know when they present or submit. At the meeting, for example, **Judy Coucouvanis** told us that she had submitted an abstract and presented at a national autism conference to a crowd of 350 on a Sunday morning! **Linda Jo Volness** informed us that she presented on childhood bipolar disorder at a meeting in England where she was the only nurse. And, I received a note from **Carol Baxter** that she is abstract #10 on NAPNAP's conference board.

Communication with each other remains high on everyone's list; a listserv was mentioned as a timely way to accommodate dialogue and share information. This will be an ISPN Board agenda item. Developing an agenda for child mental health was also mentioned and this will be explored in the next year.

Several members mentioned work they are involved with or places we need to remember. **Maureen Killeen** reminded us that every other year the agenda at the Carter Center is about some children's mental health issue. **Janiece DeSocio**, **Mark Soucy** and **Margaret Brackley** are members of a collaborative task force with APNA reviewing the educational preparation of people who work with children. **Caroline McKinnon** informed the group about the US Preventable Services Guidelines for Mental Health Services and will keep us apprised of the progress.

Please do keep us informed of your good works and, as always, let us know how ACAPN can work for you. I look forward to hearing from you!

*-Beth Bonham, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC
Division Director*

AGPN Division Update

Victoria Soltis-Jarrett, PhD, APRN-BC
vsoltis@email.unc.edu

April 2009

Greetings from the Adult and Geriatric Division! The Second Annual ISPN Psychopharmacology Institute and 11th Annual Conference were outstanding this year! There were many excellent speakers and a lot of discussion about the current trends in advanced nursing practice as well as the political issues that will be impacting us in the near future. The Adult and Geriatric Psychiatric Nursing (AGPN) Division met and heard from many members about the interest in trying to stay in touch and have access to each other over the year. Our new President, **Dr Kathy Delaney**, also made a great suggestion of setting up a database for all adult and geriatric community mental health nurses across the country. We agreed to try to start with piloting a few states, and then if successful, will expand. If you would be interested in volunteering your state to work on this project, please let me know. Also, we have a unique opportunity to participate in the Geropsychiatric Nursing Collaborative awarded by the Hartford Foundation to the American Academy of

Nursing and the Universities of Arkansas, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. This Geropsychiatric Nursing Collaborative (GPNC) is a four-year collaborative project to enhance the cognitive and mental health of older Americans. "The GPNC is designed to help improve the training of nurses for the care of elders suffering from depression, dementia and other mental health disorders. The collaborative effort will enhance present competencies for all levels of nursing education, focusing them on older adults with mental health/illness concerns. The competency statements, together with curriculum materials, developed for basic, graduate, post-graduate, and continuing education nursing programs will be shared over the next four years via this website." See link: <http://www.aannet.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3833> I will also be posting additional information about this exciting initiative so that you may weigh in and provide feedback from your own practice, educational setting and/or point of view.

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AGPN Division Update (continued from page 7)

I also wanted to share with you some of the points from the Annual Report & Recommendations for the AGPN Division in 2009-2010:

- This Division is relatively new (as opposed to some of the other Divisions which have functioned for decades). Additional input from its members including ideas related to projects, how to better facilitate communication between members and share information will be a central focus this coming year. Please let me know your thoughts!
- A position statement regarding the Educational Preparation of APRNs who provide assessment and care for those in late life will be initiated and a committee will be formed (this is the GPNC).
- Fostering relationships with other organizations will be explored as a means to develop this Division's charter and mission. Ideas were sought at the AGPN Division Meeting at the Annual Conference in Greenville, SC and will be discussed in the coming year.
- A survey of Division members will be created and implemented to ascertain the needs and ideas of the AGPN member so that ISPN can endeavor to assist them to enrich their practices.
- Membership will also be a focus, reaching out to those past members who have let their membership lapse and encouraging their participation and interest in the Division, as well as their suggestions for how ISPN can benefit them.

- Initiate a mentoring group for new or younger members of ISPN and encourage them to submit abstracts for the Annual Conference related to AGPN.

Other AGPN Division News:

- **Melinda Morrissette** has resigned from the Tobacco Dependence Workgroup and we want to thank her for her energy and commitment in representing ISPN and our Division! Thanks Melinda! We are in the process of securing another member for this workgroup. If you are interested, please let me know!
- ANCC is requesting Adult CNS's to participate in a Role Delineation Study Panel for the Adult PMHN CNS Exam. If you are interested, please let me know!
- I would also like to thank several members of our Division for their time and energy in helping me to write to 150 Graduate Schools of Nursing across the USA to personally invite them to the Institute and Annual Conference. They are: **Tari Dilks, Bev Hart, Deb LeMasters-Parzel, and Carol Williams**. Thanks to all of you for your assistance in getting the word out!
- If you would be interested in participating in exploring the Community Mental Health Project (and would volunteer your state for a pilot), please let me know! I will also be emailing to get volunteers in the near future!

Have a great spring!

-Victoria Soltis-Jarrett
Division Director

ISPCLN Division Update

Susan Krupnick MSN, PMHCNS-BC, ANP-BC, CARN
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Hello ISPCLN Division Colleagues;

I hope that you are planning to have some enjoyable and relaxing time over this summer. I wanted to let you know what a wonderful experience I had, as the ISPCLN Division Director, while I was attending the conference this year in Greenville, South Carolina. During the conference I had numerous opportunities to reconnect with long-time PCLN colleagues and an equally rich experience was to welcome many new ISPCLN members. The conference was certainly internationally represented with colleagues from Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Germany, The Netherlands, Nigeria, and Thailand.

Additionally, the ISPN Foundation, under the leadership of **Dr. Kathy Scharer** put on a special dinner and silent auction event that was both fun and another opportunity to network with colleagues while contributing to the ISPN Foundation. ISPCLN division member **Peggy Dulaney** worked the dinner participants as a finely tuned auctioneer, encouraging a bidding frenzy over several auction items. These monies are used to promote research efforts and facilitate participation of colleagues at the ISPN conference. This year the ISPN Foundation funded both international travelers and students to attend the 2009 conference.

ISPN 11th Annual Conference and Second Annual Psychopharmacology Institute Described as a "Smashing Success" by Participants

The verbal and written feedback for both the Psychopharmacology Institute and ISPN annual conference have declared them both successful events that promoted our members and the outstanding work that our members do on a daily basis. The conference was jam packed with excellent presentations that were research based and clinically focused with relevance to PCLN practice. It was truly wonderful to hear so many PCLN's describing their practice, their ventures into research, publications and movement into non-traditional roles. It was exciting to be immersed for a few days in the experience of listening to and discussing the many facets of psychiatric-consultation liaison nursing in specific and psychiatric mental health nursing in general. If you missed this years conference, I am sorry you did, but here is an offer I hope you consider. The site location and dates have been decided on for 2010, as we are off to the land of the really big arch – no not McDonald's, but Saint Louis, Missouri. One of our wonderful members from Saint Louis, **Sally Frese** has graciously volunteered to be part of the planning committee.

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Sally always provides enthusiasm and fun activities while working diligently to orchestrate an educationally rich program. Once again, **Edilma Yearwood**, will be the Conference Chairperson, and her leadership for the 2009 Annual conference was brilliant. I hope that many of you are considering submitting an abstract for a presentation or poster for the 2010 ISPN conference.

Increasing the Visibility of PCLN Practice

I want to encourage you to consider submitting an article also to *Perspective in Psychiatric Nursing*, where there is a section devoted to psychiatric consultation liaison nursing. I recall very fondly many words of wisdom Dr. Lisa Robinson imparted, "if we do not make visible our practice, we will be always invisible and without a voice." Dr. Robinson, for some who may not recall, the "mother of psychiatric consultation liaison nursing and is responsible for many practicing PCLN's who have given voice to make our practice visible. I would also suggest that if you have written about your practice, research or an issue related to PCLN practice, I would like to know (sometimes it's hard to keep up with all the journals), so email me, and I will definitely find and read your work, and with your permission share it with the ISPCLN Division via this newsletter and also in the resource section of the website that we are building. I would like to keep our PCLN colleagues informed about the rich and exciting work that we do on a daily basis.

Resources for PCLN's

During the time that I was preparing my presentation on mental status changes and cognitive disturbances across the life span for the Psychopharmacology Institute, along with **Dr. Mark Soucy** and Lisa Cyr-Buchanan, I identified a few resources that were helpful in updating the area of delirium in the acute care and emergency care patient. I wanted to share with you that the 2009 edition of *The Textbook of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences*, by Yudofsky and Hales, has the best chapter along with extensive references that I have seen on delirium. Additionally, the entire book is an excellent resource especially for PCLN's working in acute and emergency care environments. The second resource that I have identified as helpful in my practice is the 2008 edition of *The Textbook of Geriatric Psychiatry*. Both of these texts are published by American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.

Finally, the Delirium Etiology Checklist worksheet developed by Dr. Paula Trzepacz (a psychiatrist who has focused on delirium assessment and treatment throughout her research trajectory) offered use of this tool (included in the *Neuropsychiatry Textbook* by Yudofsky), and she can be reached at PTT@lilly.com for a direct request of the tool. This is not a delirium rating tool, but a tool to organize your thinking about what the etiologic factor(s) might be to consider when developing a plan of care and making your recommendations. I have used this tool in the past and have found it to be useful.

I would appreciate your input on resources that you have found to be useful in your practice, so I can share them with our colleagues.

Farewell and Hail

I would like to take a moment to express my personal appreciation to **Dr. Geraldine Pearson** for her leadership of ISPN during her presidency over the last two years. She worked diligently to shepherd this organization and continue promoting our visibility. Additionally, I want to welcome **Dr. Kathleen Delaney** as the current president of ISPN and ask that we all support her in the next wave of leadership to promote the strength of ISPN. I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to each ISPCLN Division member who served on committee(s), task force or assisted a colleague in obtaining some information or resource. I rely on the members of this division very often to assist our colleagues both nationally and internationally and I am indebted to you for your kindness and generosity in facilitating their questions. That is after all the nature of PCLN practice.

Opportunity to Participate in the ISPCLN Division

I hope that each member will actively participate in the ISPCLN Division this year in some manner. I certainly want to hear from you about other ideas or options that you are aware of that the ISPCLN Division should be considering for future partnerships or involvement. Please contact me at Skrupnick@charter.net; or phone 1-508-248-7108 or cell 1-508-826-6208 to let me know if you are interested in participating in projects or on committees. Have a fun and safe summer and start writing those abstracts for 2010!!!

Warmly,
-Susan Krupnick, MSN, PMHCNS-BC, ANP-BC, CARN
Division Director

Hello and welcome SERPN members! At the Annual Meeting of ISPN, I was selected as the new Director of SERPN. I am honored to serve ISPN in this role. I am an Associate Professor and Director of the Baccalaureate program at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing and I have been a member of SERPN for many years. I have served on the Research Committee and I am a longstanding member of the Editorial Board of *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*. Since SERPN is the Division that particularly emphasizes education and research, I look forward to exciting dialogue with members about strategies to move these mandates forward.

As others have reported the ISPN Annual Conference was a great success, and SERPN was very well represented. Our annual Division meeting (at 7:30 a.m.!) was well attended by more than 20 members, in spite of the early hour! The meeting was ably chaired by **Jane Neese**, our outgoing Division Director. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jane for her outstanding leadership these past two years. She has done a terrific job; she will be a hard act to follow!

Among the discussion items at the meeting was an update on the AAN PMH /Behavioral Health Competencies. **Dr. Catherine Kane** and **Dr. Margaret Brackley** gave a summary of the two years of work for this task force. The competencies follow the Essentials of BSN education similar to the Gerontological Nurses and are for all RNs, ADNs, Diploma and BSN graduates. The draft will be on the web within a month and will include a request for members to respond to the committee. Many thanks especially to Dr. Brackley, Chair of the Education Committee of ISPN, who also gave an update on the Position Statement on PMH NP Education Criteria for Evaluation of Programs. This document is completed but has to be vetted through NONPF first and will be posted on the ISPN/SERP website soon.

The Task Force to develop a position paper on the educational preparation of advanced practice psychiatric nurses (APRNs) who address the needs of children with mental health issues is still working to develop recommendations for minimal entry level preparation and didactic content. Stay tuned for important findings from this hard working group! Finally, DNP education essentials that focus on psychiatric mental health nursing were discussed. After a lively discussion, it was recommended that SERPN work with APNA to address this issue. We are looking for volunteers from the SERPN membership to work with APNA on this issue.

Jane Neese reported that *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing* journal is doing very well. Currently, it is the #1 nursing journal downloaded from Elsevier publishing. We should be very proud of the quality of articles that are published in *Archives*. But, we need to keep it going; *Archives* is looking for reviewers, so please consider volunteering for this very important role. It is a great way to contribute to the dissemination of our evidence based practice. We are also looking for a member to serve as the "point person" to write a column for SERPN, to update the broader membership on our activities. Please let me know if you are interested in these great opportunities.

Goals for the upcoming year? Members have expressed an interest in development of standards for family psychiatric nursing and an examination of the CNL for psychiatric nursing. These are worthy goals. In addition, my goals as Director are to 1) increase our emphasis on research and evidence based practice; 2) increase international membership; and 3) reach out to students and junior faculty to encourage involvement in SERPN. I invite all members of SERPN to share ideas for ways to address these goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me to share your comments, suggestions or concerns: lrose2@son.jhmi.edu.

-Linda Rose, PhD, RN
Division Director

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NEW Newsletter Deadlines:

Editor's Note

This newsletter is produced three times a year. The next two deadlines for article submission are as follows:

Fall: September 25, 2009

Winter: January 15, 2010

In each issue we ask for updates from various Divisions, Councils, Committees, and Work groups. We are interested in member professional activities, news, and achievements. Please contact your division leaders with ideas for articles.

Submit your articles to: **Plumer Lovelace**

Email: plovelace@reesgroupinc.com



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