Who are we?
The formation of the Special Interest Group for International Engagement and Development (SIG-IED) was initiated by Dr. Claudia Beverly, Past President of the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence (NHCGNE), in the fall of 2017. Representatives of the NHCGNE centers, both within and outside of the United States, responded to the initiative.

We are:

Claudia Lai,
Chair of the SIG, School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University;

Deirdre Fetherstonhaugh,
Co-Chair, La Trobe University, and representing the NHCGNE center in Australia;

Kuei-Min Chen,
College of Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University;

Sherry Dahlke,
Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta, Canada;

Margaret Wallhagen,
School of Nursing, University of California, San Francisco, US, also Vice-President of NHCGNE;

Ellarene Sanders,
Executive Director, NHCGNE, ex-officio of this SIG.

Members exchange ideas to develop the goals and strategies for promoting international engagement, and the group first met in April 2018.
Our Goals
- To foster collaboration and scholarly exchange among members and international members, e.g., through making use of existing opportunities to create links and networks;
- To enhance the access of international members to NHCGNE;
- To act as a conduit for sharing of information and advice about international engagement and development between the Board and the members;
- To make NHCGNE international through promotion and recruitment of members;
- To facilitate the exchange of existing and new resources for education and advancement of gerontological nurses.

What have we done?
We have been playing a more active role in serving the NHCGNE by volunteering for/supporting the annual Leadership Conference, such as to host the round table sessions and luncheon meetings. Throughout the times, our group continues to promote NHCGNE, recruit new members, and extend our international networks. We have made several proposals to the Board about strategies for engaging and developing international members.

The Way Ahead
We will make good use of the networks within NHCGNE and identify ways to enhance the access of our international members to the NHCGNE resources, and to promote global membership and involvement. We believe that international engagement and development will enhance the impact of NHCGNE, hence, strengthen the capacity building of gerontological nurses worldwide. Building the capacity of gerontological nurses will result in better health and quality care for older adults and their families. We welcome new members to join us and drive our efforts forward.

COME JOIN US
WE NEED YOU!

We aspire to grow in numbers in order to create a greater impact! Please let us hear your views on international engagement and development. Simply contact:

Claudia Lai
(claudia.lai@polyu.edu.hk)

Deirdre Fetherstonhaugh
(D.Fetherstonhaugh@latrobe.edu.au)

We meet online every two months. We share ideas via emails when we are not meeting. Each of us also promotes our SIG and the NHCGNE through our own networks.