A Message From the Executive Director

I hope that everyone is having a great start to Fall (or Spring in the southern hemisphere)!

The leaders of NHCGNE have been doing inspired work recently. Examples include:

- The Membership Committee has conducted meetings to dialogue with Deans of NHCGNE member schools about the future of the organization.
- Selected members of the Board and Committees have participated in a strategic planning process conducted by our Management Services Company, Virtual Inc.
- A subcommittee of the Education Committee has completed the review and selection process for our DEGN applicants for 2023.
- The Conference Planning Committee has finalized the Conference Agenda for October 24-26, 2023. They have reviewed abstracts, selected the live session presenters, and planned the poster session and prerecorded content for the conference.
- The Finance/Entrepreneurial Committee spends time at each of their monthly meetings brainstorming ideas to generate revenue for the organization.
- The Nominations Committee has recruited and provided a ballot for new officers, board members, and Nominating Committee members.
- Two writing groups, started by the Special Interest Group for International Engagement and Development (SIG-IED) have completed manuscripts. One has been accepted for publication and the other has recently been submitted.

These are just a few of the many activities that our volunteers have undertaken during the summer months of 2023. We will provide more details at the annual Business Meeting in October. There are countless more activities that will result in positive outcomes as well, so we have good reason to look forward to 2024. Please let us know if you have suggestions, project ideas, funding opportunities, or other useful thoughts. New ideas are always welcome!

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking that we used to create them.”
NHCGNE's Nook

Have You Registered for the 2023 NHCGNE Annual Conference?

In case you missed the news, registration for the 2023 NHCGNE Annual Conference, taking place October 24-26, 2023, is currently open.

We encourage you to participate in the NHCGNE annual conference, the premier conference in gerontological nursing. Under the theme of Research, Scholarship, and Innovations for Optimal Aging, this conference will feature commissioned white papers, plenary sessions, leadership workshops, discussant reports, and panel discussions that explore the current state of knowledge about national and international aging, dementia, and mental health science, curricular innovations, evidence-based clinical practice, and health policies.

Register Now

NHCGNE Mentor Corner

Mentor Tip: Strategies for Success

Welcome to the 2023-2024 academic year! The theme for the 2023 NHCGNE Annual Conference is Research, Scholarship, and Innovations for Optimal Aging. The Mentoring Panel Discussion will focus on implementation science and strategies for success. If you have been the provider or recipient of mentoring related to implementation science, we want to hear from you! We are inviting those who are interested in sharing their experiences and knowledge about mentoring in this area through a panel discussion at this year's conference. We would especially like to include a mentor/mentee pair from NHCGNE international members.

If you are interested or know of someone who may be a good fit for this year's mentoring panel discussion, please send an email to Andrea Sillner.

Coronavirus and Older Adults
Antibody Response in Elderly Vaccinated Four Times with an mRNA Anti-COVID-19 Vaccine

A study examined the immune response in 46 elderly residents of an assisted living facility who received a third and fourth dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 mRNA vaccine. After the fourth dose, participants who had never been infected by SARS-CoV-2 showed a significant increase in IgG antibody levels against the virus’s spike protein and improved neutralizing antibody levels, particularly against the Omicron variant.

The results suggested that additional vaccine boosting is beneficial for elderly individuals, but as they get older, many people permanently lose their ability to smell, and this reduces their pleasure from food and enjoyable surroundings. Read more about this intriguing study below!

Read More

Distinguished Educators in Spotlight

Dementia and Palliative Education Network

Tatiana Sadak, PhD, PMHNP, ARNP, RN, FAAN

The Dementia and Palliative Education Network (DPEN) team, led by Dr. Tatiana Sadak, located in the University of Washington School of Nursing, is dedicated to transforming healthcare delivery through educating nurses to practice as leaders in dementia care. The DPEN team believes nurses are the key to optimizing dementia care, due to their multi-faceted and holistic skill set that is rooted in person-centered care. Flagship DPEN programs include a comprehensive dementia nursing curriculum for students and practicing nurses and an Excellence in Long Term Care (LTC) Externship.

The dementia nursing curriculum, developed by Dr. Soo Borson, contains modules that focus on six domains of comprehensive care:

- Cognitive Health and Function
- Emotional, Behavioral and Spiritual Health
- Physical Health and Function
- Care Partner Capacity and Needs
- Health Related Social Needs
- Care Delivery Framework.

Self-paced study modules are developed by local and national experts who are also available to offer synchronous interactive SPRINT-style training focused on evolving case studies and consolidation of the pre-study materials.

DPEN partnered with Washington State Health Care Authority and Aging and Long-Term Support Administration to develop and pilot the Excellence in LTC Externship — which enrolls senior Bachelor of Science (BSN) in Nursing students to work in LTC facilities as nurse techs while receiving course credits. Currently, the LTC Externship program is in its second year and students have reported high satisfaction with the clinical opportunities in which they learn advanced nursing skills and build connections with residents. Students have reported the LTC Externship changed their views on working in LTC and increased their interest in exploring this field in the future. Future DPEN programs include: LTC residency and Anti-Racism culture assessment and interventions for LTC.
Innovative Model of Care Delivery for Community-Dwelling Older Adults at Adult Day Care Centers
Kuei-Min Chen, PhD, RN, FAAN

To reflect the complex needs of community-dwelling older adults and the urgency of developing an efficient care delivery model that comprises the process for screening high-concerned older adults and provides needed care, an interdisciplinary research team led by Professor Kuei-Min Chen developed the High-concerned Community Older Adults Screening Scale (HCOASS) to be used by the volunteers at adult day care centers as a guide in the home visits of community-dwelling older adults, and designed and tested the effectiveness of the High-concerned Community Older Adults Care Delivery Model (HCOACDM) to be used by the care managers at adult day care centers as a guide in handling the complex needs of high-concerned older adults.

The HCOACDM had contributed to improved functional ability and quality of life, reduced depressive symptoms, greater access to adequate healthcare and social services, and more satisfaction with care delivery and service linkage among high-need community-dwelling older adults in Taiwan. The effects of the HCOACDM were predominantly positive at 3 months and at 6 months of the intervention, indicating a promising sustainability of the HCOACDM.

Special Interest Group
International Engagement & Development

Paper Writing Progress Update

We are pleased that our paper writing groups, with members from the education committee, have made progress over the past year. The Gerontological Competencies group has conducted a scoping review to understand the state of entry to practice competencies around the world. Their paper is currently in review. The Ageism group has agreed on a protocol and is in the process of screening for a systematic review. The Student Nurses Intervention group broke into two groups to examine qualitative and quantitative data. The paper reporting qualitative data is currently under review and the quantitative paper is in the final stages of preparation for submission. Finally, we have a group exploring loneliness in old age, which is conducting an umbrella review. They have completed their protocol and soon will be starting their review.

Respectfully submitted by Sherry Dahlke and Margaret MacAndrews

Age with Good Mood: A Volunteer Network Based Medical-Social Collaborative Program for Supporting Underprivileged Older Adults

Ken Lok Man Ho is leading a research project entitled Age with Good Mood, a volunteer network-based medical-social collaborative program for supporting underprivileged older adults in Hong Kong. The project is a collaboration between the Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, the Salvation Army Tai Po Integrated Service for Senior Citizens, and the Nethersole School of Nursing of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The project held its kick-off ceremony in July 2023, with a successful recruitment of 58 volunteers to form a reliable network to serve underprivileged older adults. The volunteers received training on basic homecare support, tele-technologies for teleconsultation, and mental health first aid.
Under-privileged older adults will be provided a smartphone with mobile data and will be paired with trained volunteers for regular home visits and assisting tele-consultations. The project aims to empower trained volunteers to mitigate the loneliness and social isolation of underprivileged older adults and improve accessibility to telemedicine and telehealth services among underprivileged older adults. To learn more about Ken’s footprint on nursing education and research, connect with him at LinkedIn: Ken Hok Man HO, or at twitter: @KenHo_Academic.

**Dementia Training Australia**

In January 2023, Deirdre Fetherstonhaugh and Margie MacAndrew started in their new positions – both are directors of Dementia Training Australia. Dementia Training Australia (DTA) is the national training organization for training health professionals about evidence-based dementia care. DTA has five hubs, each responsible for coordinating training in specific areas.

Deirdre is the Director of the La Trobe University hub responsible for training general practitioners and practice nurses and is leading a new initiative to develop a dementia champions program to build the capacity of our leaders in dementia care.

Margie is the director of the Queensland University of Technology hub which is responsible for training related to Responsive Behaviors and is leading a new initiative to develop toolkits for front-line workers to use to promote the continued application of knowledge in practice and to improve knowledge about Responsive Behaviors in the dementia care workforce.

To learn more about DTA and the scope of the training provided, visit [https://dta.com.au/](https://dta.com.au/).

**Learn More About DTA**

**Regional Nursing Research Societies List**

**Midwest Nursing Research Society:** Gerontological Nursing Science RIIG  [https://mnrs.org/](https://mnrs.org/)

**Southwest Nursing Research Society:** Aging/Gerontology RIIG  [https://snrs.org/](https://snrs.org/)

**Eastern Nursing Research Society:** Aging RIG  [https://www.enrs-go.org/](https://www.enrs-go.org/)
Check Out the Read of the Month!

Functional Status of Elderly Adults
Before and After Initiation of Dialysis

This paper explores recent findings that reveal a substantial and sustained decline in the functional status of elderly nursing home residents with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) following the initiation of dialysis, with only a minority of patients able to maintain their pre-dialysis level of function.

Read the Full Article

Transforming Senior Care: ConsidraCare Is Creating A New Structure Of Care For Canada's Aging Population

This article discusses a couple's efforts to transform senior care in Canada's aging population by addressing the growing demand for elderly care services due to an aging population. It highlights the challenges faced by caregivers and the need for innovative solutions in the senior home care industry.

Read the Full Article

What New Nursing Home Staffing Rules Would Mean for Residents and Patients
This article details the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and their proposal for new nursing home staffing rules. Their proposal supports systemic changes that can improve the quality of life for senior citizens.

Read the Full Article

NHCGNE Partnerships

Behavioral Health in Primary Care

Free Courses and Case Studies!

Topics in the BHPC Series Include:
Depressive Disorders, LGBT Diversity Inclusion, Risk Screening, Social Determinants of Health, Substance Use Disorders, and Trauma-Related Disorders.

Learn More About NHCGNE's Partnership
Academic/Scholarship Opportunities

New NHCGNE - NACNS Gerontological Nursing Courses

NHCGNE has partnered with NACNS (National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists) to present the following two gerontological nursing courses:

- Leadership in Older Adult Caregiving
- Nursing for Older Adults

These courses are led by instructors who are NHCGNE members and accomplished nursing educators and leaders in their respective domains. Both on-demand classes offer the flexibility to be completed all at once or within a 90-day span.

Learn More & Register

Graduate Gerontology Healthcare Certificate
Reynolds 2023 Doctoral Scholarship Award

The Reynolds Center of Geriatric Excellence, Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center announces $150,000 PhD Scholarships for full-time PhD study in Nursing, with a focus in adult and older adult healthcare. The Scholarship offers up to three years of support with a value of $50,000 per year for tuition and fees, conference travel, and a monthly living stipend. The PhD Program is online, providing strong individual mentorship with visits to campus for intensives. For more information about the scholarship, contact PhD Program Director, Dr. Emily Jones at Emily-J-Jones@ouhsc.edu or at 405-271-1491 Ext. 49135.

Learn More

NINR Extramural Program: Funding Opportunities and Updates

Click below to learn about out some new and continuing funding opportunities, provided by The National Institute of Nursing Research (NIH).

Learn More

Get Involved With NHCGNE!

Save up to 60% on theme parks, hotels, concerts, movie tickets, and more!

MemberDeals provides NHCGNE members with a unique opportunity to access exclusive offers to the world’s greatest entertainment and travel brands, including Walt Disney World® Resort, Universal Orlando Resort™, Cirque du Soleil® and SeaWorld® Parks and Entertainment, and many other worldwide offers and attractions are available all with special pricing not available to the public.

NHCGNE is excited to announce our new partnership with MemberDeals! As a valued client, we would like to offer these exclusive new promotions to you as a completely free perk.
MemberDeals is a benefits program with exclusive offers to the world’s greatest entertainment and travel brands. While working with the top suppliers and partners in the industry nationwide, MemberDeals develops attractive offers that you can share with family and friends!

Learn More

Consider Donating to NHCGNE

Your generous donation will be instrumental in the development of new programs such as our new grant program, and products and services that will enable us to continue to develop and strengthen gerontological nursing and leadership.

The importance of your contribution cannot be overstated. In addition to all the work that you already do on behalf of older adults, this gift further demonstrates your personal commitment to preparing our country with a competent gerontological nursing workforce. NHCGNE is a 501(c)3 organization and you can claim a deduction on your federal taxes.

Donate Today!

Volunteers Needed

Member participation in NHCGNE committees is vital to the growth and development of our organization. Joining a committee is one of the easiest ways to get involved. NHCGNE is seeking volunteers to share their skills and expertise by serving on one or more of our Membership, Finance/Entrepreneurial, Education, Leadership Conference Planning, Communication, Mentoring, and Awards Committees. Learn more about each committee here. If you are interested in serving on one of the committees, please email info@NHCGNE.org.

Say it with "Got Content"!

Do you have a research opportunity or ad you would like to include in our next newsletter? If so, please send any submissions to NHCGNE Staff at info@nhcgne.org with NHCGNE New Directions Submission in the subject line.

Reminder that free ads are available as a member benefit!

Next New Directions Content Submission Deadline:

November 2023
Deadline: October 23, 2023

Email Us Your Content Today!

Share the Newsletter

Do you know any faculty or PhD student in your school or university that is not receiving New Directions? If so, please send their name and email address to info@nhcgne.org.

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