Now is a particularly exciting time for the nursing and midwifery professions, both in Australia and internationally. There is an opening in the landscape for change and a moment in history to influence the future of healthcare. To seize this opportunity the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, in association with the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), was therefore pleased to host its first international policy and research roundtable to begin a multi-country initiative to enhance nurses and midwives’ access, input and influence in health policy.

The four day roundtable (1 - 4 September 2009) brought together academic leaders in nursing with government chief nurses and policymakers (see photo above) from Australia, the United Kingdom, the US and Canada to discuss and share their perspectives on health policy and research.

"This roundtable represents an important beginning to our commitment to fostering education and research. The roundtable group aims to develop further its international nursing policy and research network and meet again."

The Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery launched the roundtable with a fabulous evening with guests including Faculty alumni and friends, University staff, and our professional and industry associations. Guests were treated to presentations and a panel discussion with some of the international policy roundtable participants. They were Professor Anne Marie Rafferty (UK), Jane Salvage (UK), Dr Brenda Cleary (USA) and Sandra McDonald-Renz (Canada). The evening’s formal proceedings were closed by Rosemary Bryant, Commonwealth Chief Nurse and ICN President, and Professor Stephen Garton, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney.

I am also pleased that the launch coincided with academic approval of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery’s new and revised suite of programs for 2010. Next year we are very excited to be offering students new and revised courses, from our Master of Nursing to our postgraduate coursework programs in the areas of cancer and haematology, emergency, intensive care, clinical nursing, clinical trials practice, mental health and a Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner).

It was fantastic to see so many of the Faculty’s alumni and friends at the launch and we look forward to more events like this in the future.

Please stay in touch.

Professor Jill White
Dean, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery,
The University of Sydney
Faculty staff and students are significant contributors to the development of the disciplines of nursing and midwifery through research and other professional activities. In September, Faculty academic staff travelled to Singapore to attend the University of Sydney graduation ceremony. To coincide with this event, Faculty staff, Maureen Boughton, Kate White, Kim Foster and Donna Waters, participated in a research day as part of a University delegation to the National University of Singapore. The Faculty is now looking to pursue a number of interesting and potential project opportunities with the Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies.

The Faculty was pleased to support Associate Professor Maureen Harris (School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine, Edith Cowan University) as the keynote speaker at the Centre for Midwifery and Nursing Research (RPA Women and Babies) conference “Working with risk – keeping mother and baby safe”. More than 120 people attended the conference. The RPA Women and Babies Centre for Midwifery and Nursing Research is affiliated with the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery. 

Also in September, Associate Professor Sandra West gave a keynote address on shiftwork at the Enrolled Nurses Professional Conference .

Results from the ‘Cardiovascular Risk in Bereavement’ (CARBER) study were recently published in the respected Internal Medicine Journal and presented at the Australia and New Zealand Annual Cardiac Society Conference in Sydney. This world first study, conducted by clinicians from the Sydney Medical School and the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, provides new insight into the emotional stress caused by bereavement as well as new students!

The caseload midwifery project, Midwives @ New Group Practice Options (M@NGO) recently passed a significant milestone in recruiting 500 women to a randomised controlled trial of caseload midwifery care at the Royal Hospital for Women [Investigators: S Tracy (USyd), M Chapman (UNSW), M Peek (USyd), MB Tracy (USyd), C Homer (UTS), S Kildea (ACU)].

Lecturer Jem Masters travelled to Athens in July to present a paper at the International Social Science Conference on how stigma of mental health patients in the emergency department can be eroded. And finally, six students as well as Faculty staff have had abstracts accepted for oral presentation at the 36th International Conference on Cancer Nursing in Atlanta (USA) in March 2010.

New projects

Two programs involving members of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery were successful in the recent funding round of the International Program Development Fund.

Dr Andrea Marshall is part of a multidisciplinary team that has been funded for the project “Working with the Timorese Health System to Develop a Systematic, Practical and Team Oriented Critical Care Education Program for Health Professionals”. Andrea had travelled to Timor Leste in June 2009 as part of the joint Sydney Medical School and Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery program to deliver the first of two planned 3-day workshops.

A Professorial Exchange Grant will fund an international exchange with the School of Nursing, Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.

Dr Kate Curtis and Associate Professor Kim Foster are the successful recipients of a $30,000 research grant from the College of Nursing for a project entitled “Depression, anxiety and stress in major trauma patients: A mixed methods explanatory study”.

Research and innovation

We welcomed students during Sydney Uni Live!, the University of Sydney's open day on 29 August 2009.

Students learned about our unique combined degree program - the Master of Nursing combined with a Bachelor of Arts, Health Sciences or Science. They got to meet some of our great current students, undertake health checks and take tours of our state-of-the-art clinical laboratories and simulated hospital wards.

We hope to see them here next year as new students!
Can you see yourself here?

Applications are now open for students to study with us in 2010.

In 2010 the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery is offering exciting new and revised courses, from our Master of Nursing (combined degree and Graduate Entry programs), to our postgraduate coursework programs and research degrees. We also offer a Bachelor of Nursing (Post-Registration).

Contact Nursing Student Services on +61 2 9351 0693 or info@nursing.usyd.edu.au to find out how to apply.

Book launch

Noeline Kyle from the Nursing History Research Unit launched her new book "A Greater Guilt: Constance Emile Kent and the Road Murder" to a large and enthusiastic gathering assembled at the Faculty.

A Greater Guilt is a scholarly/popular history. Noeline interrogates the events of the murder of Constance’s 3 year-old half-brother in Wiltshire, England in 1866, her confession in 1865, her life in prison and her more than 50 years in Australia during which she had a long and successful career in nursing and administration.

The Birthing Kit Initiative

Our students are terrific models of how the next generation of nurses and midwives are contributing to global health development.

In an effort to help reduce the number of women who die in childbirth some of our Masters of Nursing students raised money to put together birthing kits to send to developing countries.

On Saturday, 1 August 2009, nursing students, family, friends and Faculty staff spent the morning assembling the kits, which contain a plastic sheet, soap, gloves, cord, scalpel and gauze.

The Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery was pleased to support this important initiative, inspired by The Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia). Congratulations to Rebeccah, Naomi, Stephanie, Amanda, Jameela and Alex who did such a fabulous job in organising this event.

Check out the video about our students’ fantastic work at http://www.usyd.edu.au/podcasts/video/

Compendium of Primary Health Care Case Studies

Now more than Ever: The Contribution of Nurses and Midwives to Primary Health Care is the title of a new World Health Organisation resource compiled and summarised by Professor Mary Chiarella, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, assisted by Jean Yan (Chief Scientist, Nursing and Midwifery, WHO) and Jane Salvage (Visiting Professor Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, King’s College London).

This compendium of primary health-care studies is part of a year-long project led by the WHO Office of Nursing and Midwifery. The project aims to maintain, improve and scale up the contribution of nurses and midwives to primary health care worldwide, within the context of the interprofessional team.

Vietnam Study Tour

In June the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery hosted a Vietnamese delegation from organisations including the Department of Science and Training of the Ministry of Health, Ha Duong Medicine Technical University and a number of medical colleges.

Over two days the Faculty provided a detailed overview of the principles and foundations, content and organisation of its nursing education program, including clinical education using simulation and developing patient scenarios and curriculum development.

Cumberland 30th Anniversary Celebrations

Many nurses obtained their original nursing qualifications at the School of Nursing, Cumberland College of Health Sciences. The 30th anniversary celebrations provide a great opportunity to explore the Cumberland Campus. Events include: Interactive health checks, sporting demonstrations, live band, barbeque, study fair, children’s activities, Health Sciences Research Symposium and alumni reunion.

For the full program and to register visit www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/anniversary

Cumberland 30th Anniversary Celebrations

Saturday 31 October 2009, 11.00am – 4.00pm

Cumberland Campus, 75 East Street Lidcombe

Find out more about your course options at the Anniversary Celebrations, “Life of a Student at Health Sciences” Study Fair.
Recognising our outstanding students

Each year the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery offers scholarships to its students, generally based on academic merit. In 2009, we congratulate the following scholarship recipients:

**Pre-registration**
Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) Merit Scholarship. Value of $5000.00 each:
- Annie Veronica Black
- Rochelle Marie Hairs
- Kristie McKenzie

Combined/Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) Merit Scholarship
Value of $5000.00 each:
- Nastassja Prinsloo
- Emma Argaet

**Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) Merit Scholarship**
Value $5000.00:
- Denise Haylen

**International**
Faculty International Merit Scholarship
One scholarship to the value of $5000.00 for an international student. This scholarship is awarded in conjunction with the University of Sydney’s International Office:
- Jameela Truman
- Shannon Cecilia Whelan

**Conference Bursary**
One bursary up to the value of $2500.00 to attend and/or present at a conference. Shared between:
- Rebeccah Bartlett
- Alasdair Williamson

Students interested in applying for a scholarship from the University of Sydney can obtain information from:

Staff awards

We congratulate four of our academic staff who recently won prestigious awards for learning and teaching.

Associate Professor Maureen Boughton, Lynne Brown and Lesley Halliday were recognised with Australian Learning and Teaching Council Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

They were recognised for their work with our students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, including the many international students we attract to our programs.

Associate Professor Sandra West was awarded the University of Sydney’s Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research Supervision. These annual awards for Learning and Teaching recognise outstanding achievements by University faculties, groups and individuals in teaching and research supervision.

**New ICN President - Congratulations**

The Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery congratulates Rosemary Bryant, Commonwealth Chief Nurse, on her recent appointment to the position of President, International Council of Nurses. We look forward to continuing to work with Rosemary in the future.

**Buy some time!**

The Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery and Sydney Medical School, together with the Ministry of Health, Timor Leste (Dili National Hospital of Guido Valadares and the Institute of Health Sciences) are building critical care workforce capacity in Timor Leste through a health education collaboration.

For just $15 you can purchase a watch that will be used by nurses and doctors in the Intensive Care Unit and Emergency Department at Dili National Hospital of Guido Valadares to more accurately monitor their patients’ vital signs.

Already the Faculty has raised $850. Very special thanks to our enterprising students who organised a bake sale and raised more than $560 for this initiative. Well done!

Make a donation and make a difference! Contact Emilia Pirri-Depares e.pirri-depares@usyd.edu.au or Andrea Marshall a.marshall@usyd.edu.au to buy some time.

**Contact us**
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CRICOS Provider No: 00026A

"We really appreciate Rebeccah, Alex and Stephanie's support. You should be very proud of them as fantastic representatives for the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery and the nursing profession in general."