



Canadian Association for the History Of Nursing
Association canadienne pour l'histoire du Nursing

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

President's Message- Geertje Boschma

CALL FOR PAPERS!

2009 CAHN/CSHM Joint Conference: "Capital Connections: nation, terroir, territoire."

See pg.6 for info.

In this issue:

President's Message 1
Feature Article: Vera Roberts-Nurse in Canada's Circumpolar Region- 1955-1989 2
Conference Report: CAHN/ACHN 2008: 6
Updates 9

It was a great pleasure to meet so many of you at the CAHN/ACHN International nursing history conference in Toronto last June. We were most pleased to welcome just about 120 participants from so many countries around the world. Later in the newsletter you will find a detailed report of the many conference activities. We had a fabulous group of scholars presenting on many different areas of nursing and health care history, as well as a large number of student presenters, both from Canada and internationally. We are grateful for the substantive financial support of the Associated Medical Services to make this happen. The presentations were of high scholarly level, reflecting just how much the field of nursing history has grown over the last decade even. All sessions brought about stimulating and critical debate on a range of topics related to professional and political developments and events in nursing and health care. We thank the Faculty of Nursing of the University of Toronto where the conference was held, and of course most importantly the local arrangement group who devoted so much of their time and energy to making this such a successful conference.

During the conference we held our Annual General Meeting. The committee reports indicated a range of activities and events that support the broader goals of our organization. Outgoing treasurer Carol Helmstadter reported that we are in good financial shape. We gratefully acknowledge her most valuable contribution to our organization in this role. We welcome Lorraine Mychajlunow who has taken over this important office. In addition to the annual scholarship, we now also award an annual CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Nursing History Research Award, which was awarded for the first time this year to two outstanding scholars in the field. During the conference Joyce MacQueen and Florence Melchior gave a brief presentation on Vera Roberts and the goals of the Vera Roberts Endowment Fund. The main goal of the fund is to stimulate scholarship in the history of Northern

nursing. We thank Florence Melchior for her leadership on the Scholarship and Awards committee and welcome Beverley Hicks as the incoming chair. Another change is the editorship of the newsletter. We thank Marilyn Beaton and Jeanette Walsh for their work over the years in editing the newsletter and welcome Kathy Gates and Jaime Lapeyre as new newsletter Editors. The membership attending the AGM supported the plan I outlined in my previous message to work out a memorandum of cooperation with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine around a regular organization of joint conferences. The plan is to have a next joint conference in 2009 at Carlton University in Ottawa. Further discussion between the CAHN/ACHN and CSHM will take place this year to work out the details of the plan which will be brought forward to the 2009 AGM for approval. In the upcoming year members will be offered the option of receipts for membership being sent via email. The ongoing management of our website is in the capable hands of Judith Hibberd and Judy Norris. We congratulate the Canadian Nurses Association, of which we are an affiliate member, on its centennial anniversary. We are proud to have Carol Helmstadter as one of the CNA Centennial Award winners this year. Sandra Bassendowski represented us at a reception at the biennial conference in Ottawa this summer. Wish you all an enjoyable year of engagement in the important and exciting field of nursing history.

Santé!
Geertje Boschma

Please also visit our website for updates and links to the activities of other nursing history groups and centres.
www.cahn-achn.ca.

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Vera Roberts: Nurse in Canada's Circumpolar Region, 1955-1989

By Joyce Schroeder MacQueen

When Vera Roberts died in 2004 and left a large sum of money to CAHN/ACHN for nursing history research in the far north, most CAHN/ACHN members had never heard of her, even though she was the recipient of many awards for her contribution to nursing in Canada's circumpolar region. I first met Vera in 1991 at Laurentian University where I was giving a presentation related to nursing history. She told me about her work in the far north and I realized she must have important archival materials. She assured me that her niece would look after them, but invited me to visit her in Elliot Lake, where she had retired, to see her things. I hoped that she would attend our Sudbury History of Nursing Group. These plans never materialized; we corresponded briefly and met once by accident at a Humanist meeting in Toronto. I learned of her death in 2004 through the *Globe & Mail* and submitted her obituary to the CAHN/ACHN *Newsletter*. Later CAHN/ACHN asked me to write a short biography of Vera Roberts.

This spring, therefore, I travelled to Thunder Bay and spent two days in the Vera Roberts Archive at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Library at Lakehead University. This Archive is in a separate metal cupboard in the main part of the Medical Library. The lower part of the cupboard consists of two file drawers of papers (diaries, correspondence, reports, etc.). The top is three shelves of artifacts and slides. Vera's parka is there, her nurses' bag, and the Arctic nurses' uniform. There are embroidered/beaded fur boots, and gloves. There is a soapstone, seal oil lamp, and a unique Inuktituk eye chart. Kept in the office next door, and seen through a window, is a long spirally-twisted Narwhal tusk (licensed). Stored somewhere else are a muskox head and a polar bear skin (licensed). Vera specified in her letter donating the archives that they were to be available and displayed. In order to get a picture of Vera's day-to-day work in the north, I concentrated on her diaries - they were there for the years 1982-83, and some notes for 1985-87. My husband Gailand, who has worked with me on archives in Britain, sorted through the rest of the materials. There were copies of many of the letters and reports and we were allowed to duplicate them, which speeded up our

work immensely. Everything I read attested to Vera's practicality, concern for patients and nursing staff, and vigilance for their rights. Reading, however, raised many questions for me about who Vera Roberts was. For example, why did she never in any of her writing mention the 24-hour winter darkness?

Fortunately, one of Vera's nieces, Jacqueline Scott, was interested in being interviewed about her aunt and lives in Thessalon, within driving distance from Sudbury. This gave me the opportunity to find out about Vera's background and her family relationships. I discovered that she had very light, freckled skin and did not like sunshine. When she holidayed in sunny places she wore a hat, long sleeves, slacks and gloves. Beatrice and Sam, her older sister and brother-in-law in Sault Ste Marie, and their four children (David, Joan, Jennifer, Jacqueline) were her family in Canada and she visited them frequently. I expected that she would have regaled her nieces and nephew with exciting stories about nursing in the north. Apparently, that was rare. Vera enjoyed sitting quietly knitting, and only talked when she was really interested in the topic. She could seem remote. During her last illness, however, when she stayed with her youngest niece, Jacqueline Scott, she did talk while they walked her little dog, Mikijug (pronounced Miki-u).

I have also conversed by telephone with Vera's colleague, Miss Ora Babcock, who was a close friend of Vera's and took over Vera's position when she retired. They were both on the Committee on Nursing in Medical Services, and Babcock reports that "Vera was a great person. She had a wealth of information and knew everything about nursing."

The purpose of this article is to introduce CAHN/ACHN members to Vera Roberts. Grants from the Vera Roberts' Fund will allow others the privilege of exploring her nursing in greater depth.

Vera Roberts was born in Yorkshire, England in 1926, the youngest of 5 children. Her father was a miner, and, unusual for the time, her parents separated. As the youngest, Roberts was expected to look after the mother who was a very difficult woman. She had to quit school before completing the equivalent of high school.

...cont'd on page 3

Vera Roberts
1926 - 2004



Vera Roberts' personally
signed and registered crest.
Dum Spiro Servio -
While I have breath I will
serve.

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Vera Roberts- (cont'd)

This is difficult to imagine, considering the many university degree programs that she later completed. According to her resume she attended a Salvation Army college before entering nurses' training. Her older sister Beatrice was a nurse, which may be why Roberts chose that path as well. In any case, she did break away from her mother. She graduated from nursing with a gold medal and a Gynaecology Prize in 1950, and midwifery a year later. She arrived in Canada in 1954. Most of her working life was spent in the circumpolar region of Canada beginning in 1955. She wrote: "I have travelled by dog team, boat, road, and plane, and have conducted clinics in tents, cabins, odd corners in various building, used tables in cafes, and local bars, - anywhere I could find a spot. I have examined patients and delivered women on the floor, when a bed or bench was unavailable. Equipment often had to be made or adapted." Roberts worked on an Eastern Arctic Patrol ship assisting with medical surveys; as a Nurse-in-Charge in various nursing stations and Director of Nursing in far north hospitals; as a Regional Nursing Officer for Medical Services; and as a Zone Nursing Officer.

Roberts had a penchant for organization. For example, she organized the hospitals in her territory so that a nurse could move from one hospital to another, needing little orientation. Materials were kept in the same place, policies were similar. After retirement, she was called back on contract and was very pleased that her system was still in place and functioning.

In 1983, as a Zone Nursing Officer she flew across the Baffin area inspecting all the nursing stations. They stopped to refuel in Hall Beach where she had worked previously. Roberts records that while waiting she "visited with Rose [Irkadyak] in the truck . . . Though I do not understand Inuktituk we smiled, held hands - and felt a very close bond, during the reunion. She seems remarkably well considering she is over 70." This diary entry is one of many demonstrating her relationships with the people of the far north.

Roberts worked to provide culturally-relevant health care and attempted to have communities make the decisions that affected them. In one rare instance, a nurse was physically attacked when she opened the door to a night-time caller. Roberts travelled there and met with the Community Council. She explained that it was their problem, and they needed to meet with the community and work out a solution. If they could not guarantee that

the nurses would be safe, the nurses would be moved to another community. The first solution suggested was that the nurses carry pagers - an expensive proposal that laid the solution on Medical Services. After further discussion, the solution finally reached was that any patient coming to the nursing station at night would be accompanied by a designated community leader who would also be on call if a patient arrived unaccompanied.

By 1982, the time of her diary, she had been in the north for over 25 years and the frustrations of working within Medical Services were evident. In January 1982 she was in Frobisher Bay, north of Labrador. A conference was being held in Yellowknife, north of Alberta, a very great distance, indeed! She received a Telex "indicating I must attend as my expertise!! was needed." Travel in January is unpredictable: there were flight problems on Monday the 11th, she got to Montreal on the 12th, there were more flight problems and she got to Winnipeg on the 13th, and then caught an evening flight to Yellowknife, arriving at 2100 hours. The next morning the meeting at the Regional Offices was shunted from the 9th floor to the 7th floor, to the 5th floor, and then back to the 7th floor where the meeting started. They discussed narcotics and drug control, she explained what she had done and they asked for a copy of her work. They discussed the hepatitis study, she explained what she had done and they asked to distribute the paper she had written. She vented, "Am getting tired of doing work, which is then sent to others. . . . If today was what I travelled all this way for, and at this expense - it was a waste of time, energy, & money, which I could have put to better use."

....cont'd on page 4



Vera Roberts, graduate nurse and midwife from Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, UK. She graduated in 1950 with a Gold Medal and Gynaecology Prize. This picture was taken in 1954 just before she came to Canada.

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Vera Roberts (cont'd)

Another source of frustration was the use of native populations for health research. For example, in April 1982 she reviewed the Breast Feeding Study proposed by the Medical Services Branch and considered it “an invasion of client privacy for something unrelated to client needs, with the potential to jeopardize nurse-client relationships.

The study would add an unnecessary work load to the nurses, seemingly only to satisfy the research desires of Branch nutritionists. The questionnaire in my opinion would not produce valid data, in Baffin at any rate. One gets tired of the number and type of researchers being imposed. Everyone seems to want to do ‘research’ amongst the Eskimo (sic) of Baffin.”



Vera Roberts, 1985, being honoured by colleagues and friends for 35 years as a registered nurse, and 30 years' work in Canada's north. Walden Restaurant, Edmonton, AB.

In October 1982, she previewed a questionnaire for program evaluation, which was more than 60 pages long and would have to be either translated or done through an interpreter. “Of course,” she said, “they only design the study. We are the ones who have to carry it out. Typical - of Ottawa.” In February 1986, she exclaimed, “Somehow, here we have got another research project wanting blood from babies during [the] period we are trying to get immunizations done.” No wonder she was frustrated.

Roberts was a lifelong learner. She struggled with math and statistics on her own. She received the *Globe & Mail* and the *Financial Post* by mail, and read a variety of books. In July 1982 she was reading Edward de Bono on lateral thinking, in August she was reading Maslow's theory on the hierarchy of needs. She stated, “I like the idea that the level of complaints indicates the level of motivation of the worker and of the health of the organization. The higher the level of ‘grumble’, the more have the lower needs & conditions been met.” Also in August she attended a computer camp at Geneva Park and was totally frustrated by the quality of teaching. In September she read a book on Einstein.

In between and during concentrated periods of work, she earned a Diploma in Nursing Service Administration from the University of Saskatchewan (1961); Diploma in Public Health Nursing from the University of Windsor (1964); a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Lakehead University (1969); and in 1981 a Master of Science in Administration from the University of Notre Dame, in Indiana. Some of this study was long-distance, off-campus work.

In December 1982, many diary entries related to tiredness. On the 23rd she recorded, “Still feel exhausted when I get home to the point of nausea.” Her tiredness was often related to the air quality in the offices at work. She was, of course, working very hard. On 24 February 1983, she worked at the office all day on the draft of a document for Ottawa, went for supper, and then worked at the office until 9 p.m. She wrote, “Couldn't take the office anymore.” So she worked at home from 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. and was back at work at 8:00 the next morning again facing the bad air - “Almost as if one can't breathe.” On 23 March 1983, she took her first sick day since working with Medical Services. On both 13 July and 3 August she described colleagues smoking so much at the office that she was “nauseated ill.”

...cont'd on page 5

CONGRATULATIONS!

To The B.C. History of Nursing Society for officially becoming incorporated as of Sept. 19, 2008.

*Check them out at:
www.bcnursinghistory.ca*

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Vera Roberts- (cont'd)

In 1986 she began to receive recognition for her incredible service to the health of those in Canada's north, beginning with the Order of Canada that year. She was very pleased with this and her other honours. She received the Gold Medal of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada in 1987; the 125th Anniversary Medal of Canada in 1992; and in 1995, the Nightingale Medal of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Roberts was a member of many Humanist and Unitarian organizations. According to her curriculum vitae, early in her life, before she studied nursing, she took theology at a Salvation Army College. Her niece has no knowledge of this, though there were Salvationists in the niece's father's family. Roberts may have been Anglican when her nieces were growing up, as she presented them with Anglican prayer books. In any case, she became an active Humanist and was president and chaplain of the Lakehead Unitarian Fellowship (1971 to 1972) following receipt of her Bachelor in Science in Nursing from Lakehead University.

Roberts retired in 1989 and moved to Elliot Lake to be close to family. Sam, her brother-in-law, died while she was still in the north. She was in Sault Ste Marie with Beatrice during her sister's final illness. Her niece, Jennifer, lived in Elliot Lake and became the executor of Roberts' will. She

lived with niece Jacqueline during her last illness and Jacqueline accompanied her to many appointments. Jennifer and Jacqueline, with Roberts, designed her tombstone and discussed her funeral. During this time, Roberts' closest brother died and she chose Jacqueline to go to England and make sure that her brother was buried with honour. At the end, when Roberts was in hospital, either Jennifer or Jacqueline

visited every day. For a single career woman, she was blessed with this family. Sadly, Vera died of leukemia in 2004, aged 78.

I would like to thank CAHN/ACHN for paying my expenses to Thunder Bay and Thessalon; Jennifer Dumond and the staff of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Library; Mrs. Jacqueline Scott, Vera's niece who lives in Thessalon, Ontario; Miss Ora Babcock, Vera's colleague who is retired in Matapedia, Quebec, and Dr. Gailand MacQueen for work in the archives.



Vera Roberts with Mikijug, who gave her much pleasure in retirement.

Conference Invite

Dear Colleagues,

We cordially invite you to attend the Agnes Dillon Randolph Inaugural International Nursing History Conference, March 20-21, 2009, at the University of Virginia's School of Nursing in Charlottesville, Virginia, USA. The conference promises to be a wonderful way to meet international and American nurse historians and hear their latest research. Please see our website for the Call for Abstracts, Registration Form, and additional information:

<http://www.nursing.virginia.edu/Research/cnhi/randolph>

*Respectfully yours,
Barbara Brodie, PhD, RN, FAAN*

For more information about the Vera Roberts Award offered by CAHN/ACHN please visit our website at:

www.cahn-achn.ca

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

2008 Conference Report

Border, boundaries and political context in nursing and health care history:

CAHN/ACHN International Nursing History Conference

The CAHN/ACHN International conference brought together a large group of national and international scholars and people interested in the history of nursing. There were approximately 120 attendees from over a dozen countries. Among them were many national and international students and about 15 of the conference presentations were student papers. In total, there were over 60 presentations, including two Hannah Lecturers, **Catherine Choy** and **Katrin Schultheiss**, as well as four theme sessions and an Editor's Forum with invited speakers. It was truly a fabulous event and an exciting conference to mark the 20th anniversary of the Association.

A conference of this magnitude and success is the outcome of the enthusiasm, expertise and work of many people interested in creating a forum for sharing scholarship in the history of nursing. The program committee, chaired by **Geertje Boschma**, and the organizing committee, co-chaired by **Carol Helmstadter** and **Judith Young**, did a superb job of bringing everything together, from the overall conception of themes that prompted scholarly discussion through to ensuring we would be comfortable in the Toronto summer.

We also were grateful for the support of **Sioban Nelson** and the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto where the conference was held. Because of the funding from the Associated Medical Services, we were able to have seventeen invited speakers from six different countries – Australia, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, the U.S.A. and Canada, and student presenters from nine countries – Australia, Israel, Austria, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, the U. K., the U. S. A. and Canada.

The result was a stimulating variety of perspectives and an excellent level of scholarship. Every presentation was followed by an interesting and lively discussion. More than half the registrants came from foreign countries including Colombia, Denmark, Ireland and Spain as well as the countries mentioned above. There was ample opportunity for networking and new scholarly contacts.

CAHN/ACHN is grateful to AMS for their award of a Hannah Conference Grant and national and international travel support for students in support of the international conference.

As well, we thank all of the additional sponsors for their support of this event; the Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto; the Schools of Nursing at Ryerson University, Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, University of British Columbia; the School of Women's Studies, York University; the Allemang Centre for the History of Nursing and the AMS Nursing History Research Unit, University of Ottawa.

...cont'd on page 7

The Canadian Society for the History of Medicine, joining with the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing, is issuing a call for papers for a joint conference at Carleton University, Ottawa, from May 29 – May 31, 2009. The theme of the 2009 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities is: "Capital Connections: nation, terroir, territoire." Abstracts on other topics are also welcome.

Please submit your abstract and one-page c.v. for consideration by **30 November 2008** to:

Susanne Klausen
 CSHM/ CAHN Programme Co- Chair with Meryn Stuart
 Department of History
 Carleton University
 428 Paterson Hall
 1125 Colonel By Drive
 Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6
 Susanne_Klausen@carleton.ca

Abstracts must not exceed 350 words. **Submissions by email are strongly encouraged.** If submitting abstracts by mail, please send one original and 3 copies, typed single-spaced on one sheet of paper. The Committee will notify applicants of its decision by January 15, 2009. N.B. If invited to present at the meeting, the author must undertake to provide a translation of the abstract for the bilingual program book.

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Conference Report (cont'd)

Hannah Lecturers

Catherine Choy, Associate Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies and Coordinator, Asian American Studies Program, University of California, Berkeley, provided the opening Hannah Lecture "***Nurses on the Move: Migration in Nursing and Health Care History.***" Choy highlighted the interplay of the migration of Philippine nurses to North America and government policies, such as migration from the Philippines being framed as a patriotic act. Her presentation opened up discussion on themes that recurred throughout the conference; international nursing; concepts of health care geography, gender and power.

Abstract:

In the new millennium, nurses and other health care workers are on the move. Their patterns of international migration are uneven with nurses from developing countries such as the Philippines migrating to work in highly developed nations such as the United States, suggesting that the concept of "brain drain" persists in the twenty-first century. For example, in June 2005, Jaime Tan of the Philippine National Institute of Health, Fernando Sanchez of the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges, and Virginia Balanon of the Philippine Health Social Science Association produced a paper featuring "10 Strategic Solutions for Action by Filipino Leaders" in an effort to combat "the brain drain phenomenon and its implications for health." The paper was in large part a response to the recent publicity about Filipino doctors taking accelerated nursing courses in the Philippines in order to work abroad. The Philippine example is not an isolated one. Although it continues to be the world's leading exporter of nurses, new research shows that other countries—Korea, India, Jamaica, and Ghana—have started to play a greater role in this phenomenon. This lecture poses the questions: What if we placed migration at the center of nursing and health care history? How would such a history illuminate the current discourses of nurses and health care workers in migration studies?

Katrin Schultheiss, Associate Professor, History Department, Gender and Women's Studies Program, University of Illinois at Chicago, provided the closing Hannah Lecture "***Religion, Citizenship, and the Transformation of the Nursing Profession in France.***" Schultheiss presented a view of the secularization of nursing in relation to political and gender discourses.

Abstract:

In the four decades surrounding the turn of the 20th century, hospital nursing in France underwent a process of professionalization grounded in the development of formal training programs and professional performance standards. Accompanying this move was a politically driven effort to replace the religious nursing orders that had traditionally provided care in most of the nation's hospitals with secular women who, many political leaders argued, were more inclined to embrace modern republican and scientific values. In this talk, I explore the problematic nature of this transition: Why did the secularization of nursing encounter so much resistance even in ostensibly non-pious regions of the country? How did religious nursing orders adapt to the new secular political landscape? How did ideas about women's proper role in society affect campaigns to secularize and professionalize nursing?

...cont'd on page 8

Thank you!

I would like to again express my thanks to the Scholarship committee for being selected as the recipient of the Margaret Allemang scholarship. My receipt of this award marks the fifth time that this Scholarship has been awarded to a Manitoban! Of those five, three have studied the history of psychiatric nursing as a distinct profession.

Dr. Beverley Hicks, PhD

Bravo!

Congratulations Beverley on the recent successful defense of your doctoral thesis, "From Barnyards to Bedsides to Books and Beyond...the Evolution and Professionalization of Registered Psychiatric Nursing in Manitoba 1955-1980.

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Conference Report (cont'd)

Theme Sessions

Political Context of Health Care

Three excellent papers were given, looking at nursing in Australian nursing in the mid-twentieth century, Germany in the 1930s and the United States in the early twentieth century. **Schweikardt** analyzed the creation of the National Socialist Sisterhood and its role in the National Socialist government as well as the roles of the community nurses in this Sisterhood.

The History of Northern and Circumpolar Nursing

This session provided the first opportunity to benefit from the CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Fund which supports research into the history of northern and outpost nursing. **Joyce MacQueen** provided a brief biography of Vera Roberts at the outset of the session.

Missionary Nursing and Religious Sisterhoods in International Context

This session offered perspectives on religious sisterhoods and the emergence of secular nursing in Switzerland, France and Quebec.

Complexities of Place, Power and Difference in the History of Psychiatry

Reflections on International Nursing and Health Care History Scholarship from an Editor's point of view

A panel of editors from the Nursing History Review, Canadian Bulletin of Medical History and Nursing Inquiry provided a spectrum of comments from pragmatic recommendations for manuscript submission, to the process of peer review in small scholarship communities such as history of nursing, to changes in the publishing industry such as the use of web-based, database-driven peer review and online submission of manuscripts ("Manuscript Central") for scholarly publishers. As well there was a stimulating discussion on differences in scholarship traditions in different countries and how these differences are taken up by various editors.

Concurrent Sessions

The concurrent sessions offered a range of scholarship with presentations on the history of nursing in specialty areas, such as district nursing and geriatric nursing in Ireland and England, and many papers focus on the history of religious nursing. It was difficult to select from the numerous excellent choices.

Overall, this conference was an outstanding success with an impressive level of scholarship and range of ideas deepening our understanding of nursing history in multiple national contexts as well as linking nursing history to other fields of historical inquiry.

Next meetings

The 2009 CAHN/ACHN conference will be held jointly with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine at the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences at Carlton University in Ottawa. And the next international nursing history conferences will be in London in 2010 and in Denmark in 2012. We hope to see many of you there.

Membership Report 2008

After one follow-up renewal mailing sent out in March, there are now 118 paid-up members. Almost 20 percent of members paid their memberships by credit card. To reduce mailing costs, I plan next year to offer members the option of having their receipts sent by email.

Making sure that nursing schools across the country may help to attract new members, and I suggest that we develop a poster and/or a brochure to send out to them. New members will receive a copy of the special nursing history edition of the Canadian Bulletin of Medical History.

Jayne Elliott

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Awards

2008 Recipients

The CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Scholarship:

Dr. Beverley Hicks is the recipient of the Margaret Allemang Scholarship at the doctoral level. She is a doctoral student at the University of Manitoba and is researching Psychiatric Nursing. The title of her project is "From Barnyards to Books and Beyond: An Examination of the Evolution, Education, and Professionalization of Psychiatric Nursing in Manitoba, 1955-1990." Beverley's supervisor is Dr. Denis Hlynka.

We did not receive any applications at the master's level.

The CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Nursing History Research Award:

The first funds from the Vera Roberts Endowment were awarded in the Fall of 2007.

Two research projects have received funding for 2008:

1. "Partners, Patients, and Place: Patterns of Nursing Experiences in Pagnirtung, 1930-1970." The principal investigator is Dr. Myra Rutherford from the Department of History at York University. She plans to complete the first draft of the project by the summer of 2009, and then complete a book while on sabbatical until 2010.

2. "This project seeks to examine the nursing career of Vera Roberts as a health care provider in the far North." Dr. Kristin Burnett is the principal investigator; Dr. Geoff Hudson is the co-applicant. Burnett is an Assistant Professor in the History Department of Lakehead University; Hudson is an Associate Professor in the History of Medicine, Northern Ontario School of Medicine. This is a three year project with dissemination beginning in 2010-2011. Dissemination will include an edited volume of select primary materials and a website.

Applications for the CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Scholarship and the CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Nursing History Research Award will be accepted until February 1st for the 2009 award year. Visit our website for more information.

www.cahn-achn.ca

Upcoming Awards

CAHN/ACHN Dr. Margaret Allemang Scholarship in Nursing History

Purpose: To promote the study of Canadian nursing history among students.

Terms of Reference:

- 1). Scholarships will normally be awarded for study at the master's and doctoral level.
- 2). Candidates must be studying Canadian nursing history.
- 3). Candidates must be enrolled at a recognized centre for the study of the history of nursing in Canada or the United States, or in a university department of history, women's studies, or with a recognized Canadian nurse historian.

Instructions: Please read carefully

- 1). Applications must be fully completed and signed.
- 2). Application forms (**5 copies**) must be completed and submitted to the Chair of the Selections Committee by the **first of February** of the scholarship year.
- 3). Please print name, address, and institution on **one** copy of the proposal only.
- 4). Applicants must provide proof of current enrolment in an educational program.
- 5). If granted the scholarship, applicants must acknowledge the award in writing and return the funds if unable to use them for educational purposes.
- 6). Please submit completed forms to:

Dr. Beverley Hicks
137 Victoria Avenue
Brandon, Manitoba
R7A 0Z2

Newsletter

Fall 2008

Volume 21, Issue 2

Executive and committee members for 2008-2009

President : Geertje Boschma (2007-2009)
 SON T303 UBC
 2211 Westbrook Mall
 Vancouver BC
 V6T 2B5
geertje.boschma@nursing.ubc.ca

Vice-President : Marion McKay (2007-2009)
 22 Leeds Avenue
 Winnipeg MB
 R3T 3X2
marion_mckay@umanitoba.ca

Treasurer : Lorraine Mychajlanow (2008-2010)
 CARNA Provincial Office
 11620 -168 Street
 Edmonton AB
 T5M 4A6
lmychajlanow@nurses.ab.ca

Secretary : Sandra Bassendowski (2007-2009)
 University of Saskatchewan
 4500 Wascana Parkway
 Regina SK S4P 3A3
s.bassendowski@usask.ca

Members-at-large: Janet Beaton (2007-2009)
 3673 Glen Oaks Drive
 Nanaimo BC
 V9T 5L3
jibeaton@shaw.ca

Allison Cowell (2007-2009)
 74 Dickens Drive
 Winnipeg MB
 R3K 0M2
ccowell@mts.net

Communications: Jaime Lapeyre
jaime.lapeyre@humber.ca

Kathy Gates (Chair)
kgates@ryerson.ca

Judith Hibberd (2007-2009)
jmhibberd@shaw.ca

Finance: Lorraine Mychajlanow (2008-2010)

Marion McKay (2007-2009)

Membership: Jayne Elliott, (Chair) (2007-2009)
 AMS Nursing History Research Unit
 School of Nursing
 University of Ottawa
 451 Smyth Road
 Ottawa ON
 K1H 8M5
jelliott@uottawa.ca

Scholarship and Research Awards:
 Beverley Hicks ((Chair,
 137 Victoria Avenue
 Brandon MB
 R7A 0Z2
hicks@mts.net

Florence Melchior
 299 College Drive S.E.
 Medicine Hat AB
 T1A 3Y6
Florence@mhc.ab.ca

Nominations: Marg Gorrie (Chair) (2007-2009)
 723 Colborne Street
 New Westminster BC
 V3L 5V6
mlgorrie@shaw.ca

Veryl Tipliski
 #303-1125 Gilford
 Vancouver BC
 V6G 2P7
tipliski@telus.net

Long-Range Planning: Marion McKay (Chair) (2007-2009)

Nicole Rousseau (2007-2009)
 194 Montcalm, CP 403
 Ste. Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier,
 QC, G0A 2M0
Nicole.rousseau@fsi.ulaval.ca

Chris Dooley (2008 – 2010)
 708 Jessie Avenue,
 Winnipeg, MB R3M 1A5
 Chris_Dooley@MTS.net

Judith Young (2008 – 2010)
 355 Millwood Rd
 Toronto, ON M4S 1J9
judithy@primus.ca