



Fall 2010

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

## Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue 2

### *President's Message- Marion McKay*

Greetings to CAHN Members and Supporters,

This year is the centenary of Florence Nightingale's death. Many events have marked this significant milestone in the history of nursing. The theme of CAHN's 2010 conference specifically addressed Nightingale's impact on the nursing profession. In September, over 300 delegates, including many CAHN members, attended the International Perspectives on Nursing History Conference at Royal Holloway, University of London where delegates had the opportunity to attend a special service at St Paul's Cathedral to mark the centenary of her death and to attend a reception at the Florence Nightingale Museum. At a more local level, I was asked to address the 2010 Sigma Theta Tau (Xi Lambda Chapter) Induction Ceremony in October and to reflect on the lady behind the legend. This brief incursion into an area of nursing history that I had previously consciously avoided forced me to reconsider my own long held opinion of Nightingale and to re-examine her life within the context of her own time and place. I was grateful for the fine Canadian scholars who guided my most recent intellectual journey – Carol Helmstadter, Lynn McDonald, and Sioban Nelson. Without their intellectual contributions to the history of nursing, I would have had very little to say.

Within this context, I continue to be concerned about the level of funding available to scholars in the field of health care history in general and the history of nursing in particular. It is increasingly evident that although Associated Medical Services continues to be committed to the financial support of CAHN's Hannah Lecture and to underwrite some of the expenses that undergraduate and graduate students incur to present papers at our conferences, we can no longer depend upon them to support the individual and institutional research programs that undergird our discipline. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council is upholding its policy that research in the history of health care is the mandate of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research; and CIHR has not yet, in Cynthia Toman's words, "stepped up to the plate." In these uncertain times, it is imperative that academic and independent historians continue to put their research programs on the public agenda. Otherwise, none of us will have anything to say.

On a brighter note, our June conference featured an unprecedented number of very fine student papers. Two members of our executive, Jaime Lapeyre and Margaret Scaia, are making steady progress towards their PhDs and we look forward to hearing more about their research. CAHN's committees continue to support the organization's overall goals. Our financial situation is stable. We enjoy a cordial working relationship with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine and work with them to pursue our shared vision and goals. In particular, Geertje Boschma has, as CAHN's representative, met with members of the CSHM and CIHR to clarify the future funding structure for research in the history of health care. And, in Ottawa, the AMS Nursing History Research Unit continues its work and is currently exploring new sources of funding.

I extend my sincere thanks to the CAHN executive, the members of this year's conference planning committee and to Penny Erikson and Anne-Marie Arsenault, who are CAHN's representatives on the planning committee for the joint CAHN/CSHM conference in Fredericton on May 28 - 30 May 2011. I hope to see many of you there.

#### **INSIDE:**

**-CALL FOR PAPERS!**

**2011 CHSM/CAHN**

See pg.5 for info.

**-New additions to CAHN/ACHN Website**

See pg.8 for info

*Marion*

**CAHN/ACHN 2010 Conference Report:****Effects of Continuities, Contingencies, and Fault Lines, by Glennis Zilm**

The interesting title chosen for the 2010 Conference of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing/ Association canadienne pour l'histoire du nursing drew exciting and thought-provoking papers across a wide range of topics. *Continuities, Contingencies and Fault Lines: Nursing 100 Years After Nightingale* offered the 22 presenters opportunities to explore Nursing's past, and identify vibrations and occasional tremors that affect its present and future. As always, with a plethora of good papers from which to choose, the 44 registrants found it difficult when they had to decide on a concurrent session.

Sioban Nelson, dean and professor, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto opened the two-day conference with a stimulating Hannah Lecture. This presentation, funded by Associated Medical Services, examined "The Nightingale Imperative: Icons, Imaginations, and Nursing Identity." She offered particularly interesting insights into ways Nightingale's enduring influence and her reputation as a reformer have affected nursing throughout the world, especially in countries where women still have low status and difficulties in developing an independent profession.

Many of the CAHN long-time members continued to offer new research. For example, Carol Helmstadter, independent scholar, Toronto, described pre-Nightingale developments in nursing education in Britain, and offered intriguing observations about the educational advances offered by two Anglican Nursing Sisterhoods, St. John's House and the All Saints Sisters, who spearheaded nursing pre-Nightingale reforms in mid-Victorian England. The Conference also attracted senior international scholars, such as Colleen Bowers from the University of Manchester and Deborah Sampson from the University of Michigan. The conference also attracted non-nursing presenters, such as Arlene Young from University of Manitoba's English department.

Especially important for observers interested in the future of history of nursing in Canada were nine presentations that involved nursing students. The quality of the work of these new researchers bodes well for the future. For example, Charlene Ronquillo, a master's degree student studying with Geertje Boschma at the University of British Columbia, gave a sterling presentation on her oral history research related to Filipino Nurse Migrants in Western Canada. Charlene also presented on this work at the 2010 conference of the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine in Montreal and was one of the recipients of the 2010 H.N. Segall Prize awarded for the best student paper there. Deborah Brummell, a student of Cynthia Toman's at the University of Ottawa, demonstrated that undergraduate students can be attracted to nursing history and do good research work.

The organizing committee from the Manitoba Association for the History of Nursing, led by chair Marion Mackay, can be congratulated for an excellent and informative conference. The committee built in significant time for networking and social events during the 2 ½-day event – something that remains of considerable importance for those attending. The conference program, showing all the abstracts, is available online on CAHN's newly-designed website and is well-worth checking if you were unable to attend and would like to know more about the presentations ([www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)).

## International Perspectives in the History of Nursing Conference

London UK 14-16 September, 2010, by Geertje Boschma

The International History of Nursing Conference, held in Royal Holloway College of the University of London, in Egham, Surrey, UK, and hosted by both the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences, Kingston University, and the St. George's, University of London, was one of the largest nursing history conferences ever. Organized jointly by the AAHN and the European Nursing History Group, a collaboration of the UK and Irish Centres for the History of Nursing and Midwifery, the Royal College of Nursing History and Heritage Committee, Kingston University and the University of London, it indeed was a truly ground-breaking event in international collaboration. For the first time in its history the conference had to be closed for registration because it had reached the maximum number of people that could be accommodated; over 300 people attended.

The conference started with a pre-conference program, with pre-conference workshops, a sightseeing tour to Windsor and London, and, a true highlight, an Evening Song at St Paul's Cathedral, to celebrate the life and work of Florence Nightingale; it was the centenary year of her death. Delegates who attended the Evening Song, were also invited to visit the crypt of the Cathedral, which has a monument in memory of Nightingale. A reception at the newly-refurbished Florence Nightingale Museum at St. Thomas' Hospital brought a worthy closure to a wonderful opening event.

The life and work of Florence Nightingale remained a central theme throughout the conference. First Keynote speaker was Mark Bostridge, author of *Florence Nightingale: The Woman and her Legend* (London, Viking Penguin, 2008) gave a most interesting address: "A Florence Nightingale for the Twenty-First Century." Among other points, he argued that calling Nightingale the mother of modern nursing might not be the most useful nor the most accurate interpretation of her contribution; it seemed more meaningful to call her the mother of professional nursing. Indeed, much food for thought. Following the address, Anne Marie Rafferty chaired a Round Table Debate on the influence of what has been framed as the Nightingale system of nurse training on the professional development of nursing. Speakers included renowned Nightingale scholars Carol Helmstadter, Barbra Mann-Wall, Judith Godden, and Lynn McDonald. A second key-note speaker was Afaf Meleis, Dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in Philadelphia, US, who presented a global perspective on nursing past and present nursing connections; a thought provoking review of important nursing contributions to international health care.

Among the other numerous highlights of the conference were a number of events in the beautiful historical Founders Building on the Holloway College grounds, including a barbeque, and awards ceremony. Jaime Lapeyre was one of the award winners. She won the AAHN scholarship award for her doctoral research. Congratulations Jaime! Furthermore, delegates could attend a film night, a conference dinner and auction, a doctoral student lunch, and a book event. At the latter ten new books were presented, including two new books by Christine Hallett, *Containing Trauma* (2009) and *Celebrating Nurses* (2010), and the launch of *Notes on Nightingale* (Cornell University Press) by Sioban Nelson and Anne Marie Rafferty.

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# Newsletter

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## Award News

### 2010 CAHN/ACHN Allemang Scholarship Award

The winners of this year's 2010 CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Nursing History Scholarship Award were Brandi Vanderspank from Ottawa, ON and Jaime Lapeyre from Toronto, ON.

Brandi is in her second year in the PhD program at the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Ottawa, under the supervision of Dr. Cynthia Toman. Her research focuses on the history of medical technology in the context of Canadian ICUs.

Jaime just achieved her candidacy in the PhD program at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto, under the supervision of Dr. Sioban Nelson. Her research focuses on the role of international health organizations in the development of nurse leaders and the creation of an international network during the first half of the 20th century.

*Congratulations Brandi and Jaime!*

Applications for the **CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Scholarship** and the **CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Nursing History Research Award** will be accepted until February 1<sup>st</sup> for the 2011 award year.

Visit our website for more Information.

[www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca).

### ATTENTION STUDENTS!

#### Website for Graduate Students:

Canadian Historical Association-  
Graduate Student Committee

<http://www.cha-shc.ca/gsc-ced/en/index.shtml>



## Call for Abstracts!

2011 CSHM/CAHN Conference—  
May, 2011, University of New Brunswick

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 University of New Brunswick, from May 28 – May 30, 2011. The theme of the 2011 Congress is ***Coasts and Continents: Exploring Peoples and Places***. Abstracts on other topics are also welcome.

Please submit your abstract and one-page c.v. for consideration by **30 November 2010** to:

Erika Dyck, CSHM Program co-chair with Anne-Marie Arsenault (CAHN)  
Department of History  
9 Campus Drive, University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A5  
erika.dyck@usask.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, 2011.

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. **All presenters must also be members of either CSHM or CAHN.**

La Société canadienne d'histoire de la médecine et L'Association canadienne pour l'histoire du nursing lancent un appel de communications à l'occasion de son congrès qui se tiendra à l'Université du Nouveau-Brunswick, samedi le 28 mai au lundi le 30 mai 2011. Le thème général du Congrès de cette année est « **Rivages et Continents : Exploration des Peuples et des Lieux** ». Vous pouvez néanmoins soumettre des propositions sur d'autres thèmes de votre choix.

Veuillez envoyer votre proposition de communication et votre curriculum vitae (au plus une page) avant le **30 novembre 2011** à:

Erika Dyck, CSHM Program co-chair with Anne-Marie Arsenault (CAHN)  
Department of History  
9 Campus Drive, University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A5  
erika.dyck@usask.ca

La proposition de communication ne doit pas excéder 350 mots. **Vous êtes fortement encouragé à la soumettre par courrier électronique.** Si vous envoyez votre proposition par la poste, veuillez soumettre l'original et 3 copies (une page simple interligne). Le comité fera connaître sa décision avant le 15 janvier 2011.

Il est à noter que chaque auteur invité à participer au congrès de la Société se doit de prendre ses dispositions pour fournir un résumé de son intervention dans les deux langues. **Tous les intervenants doivent également être membres de soit CSHM ou CAHN.**

## MARK THE DATE!

International Nursing History Conference in Denmark August 9-11, 2012

An international conference in Nursing History will take place in Denmark August 9-11, 2012. Venue of the conference will be **The Danish Museum of Nursing History**. The conference will be run jointly by the Danish Society of Nursing History and the Danish Museum of Nursing History. Accommodations.

Further announcement concerning theme, call for abstracts etc. will follow in 2010 at:

<http://www.dsr.dk/dshs.htm> and  
<http://www.dsr.dk/dshs.htm>



## International Perspectives in the History of Nursing Conference

London UK 14-16 September, 2010, by Geertje Boschma

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Last, but not least, a large number of plenary and concurrent sessions, as well as poster presentations formed the core of the conference. Each session was an opportunity to learn about an important aspect of the history of nursing, and many sessions addressed international developments. I had the privilege of chairing one session, for example, on key developments in the history of professionalization of nursing in Portugal and Italy, presented by Helena da Silva, Cecilia Sironi, and Jose Amendoeira. This was just one of the many sessions we attended and where excellent nursing history scholarship was presented and discussed. All in all, a great conference, and a great opportunity to meet many old and new colleagues and friends. Organizers, a big thank you to all of you.

Newfoundland: Marilyn Beaton and Jeanette Walsh  
 Ontario: Carol Helmsteder, Thomas Foth, Jaime Lapeyre, Dianne Dodd, Sioban Nelson, Marie-Claude Thifault (co-author but not present), Judith Young, Susan Armstrong-Reid, Cynthia Toman  
 BC: Margaret Scaia, Geertje Boschma, Sonya Grypma;  
 Alberta: Vanessa Nelson, Florence Melchior

In photo (L to R): Sonya Grypma, Cynthia Toman, Florence Melchior, Geertje Boschma, Susan Armstrong-Reid.

## *CALL FOR ABSTRACTS*

### **American Association for the History of Nursing Fort Worth, Texas, September 29-October 2, 2011**

**The American Association for the History of Nursing** and the **Harris College of Nursing, Texas Christian University**, are co-sponsoring the Association's twenty-eighth annual conference to be held in Fort Worth, Texas. The conference provides a forum for researchers interested in sharing new research that addresses events, issues, and topics pertinent to the history of the global nursing profession, its clinical practice, and the field of nursing history. Individual papers, posters, and panel presentations are featured at the conference. Additional information about AAHN and the conference can be obtained at [www.aahn.org](http://www.aahn.org).

## NEWS ITEMS

### 2012 CAHN Conference Update Planning Committee

The 2012 CAHN/ACHN Conference will be held in.....

## Medicine Hat, Alberta

Some fast facts about Medicine Hat:

- The name "Medicine Hat" is the English translation of 'Saamis' (SA-MUS)- the Blackfoot word for the eagle tail feather headdress worn by medicine men - or 'Medicine Hat'.
- A number of factors have always made Medicine Hat a natural gathering place. Prior to the arrival of Europeans the Blackfoot, Cree and Assiniboine nations used the area for hundreds of years. The gently sloping valley with its converging water ways and hardy native cottonwood trees attracted both man and the migratory bison herds which passed through the area.
- Medicine Hat became instrumental with the development of the first hospital past Winnipeg in 1889 and as a CPR divisional point. It was incorporated as a town on October 31, 1898, and as a city on May 9, 1906.
- Medicine Hat is halfway between Winnipeg and Vancouver.

*Stay tuned to our website for more information as it becomes available:*

[www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)



## Looking for Journals!

The uOttawa Health Sciences library is missing some volumes of the **Canadian Nurse** and would love to have a full set! If you know of any hospitals, schools or individuals who may have volumes 1, 2, or 11-21 inclusive that they would be willing to donate, please contact: [ctoman@uottawa.ca](mailto:ctoman@uottawa.ca)

\*\*\*a tax donation receipt can be provided

## NEWS ITEMS

### The Caring Profession



**9 October - 5 February**  
**Aberdeen Maritime Museum**

Nurses who have trained and worked locally have helped to shape this exhibition celebrating North East nurses, to mark the International Year of the Nurse. The development of professional nursing locally will be explored through star items from the nationally significant Kenneth A. Webster Nursing Collection, with recent international gifts and the voices of local nurses.

[www.aagm.co.uk](http://www.aagm.co.uk)



### NEW WEBSITE!

Officially launched at the CAHN-ACHN 2010 Conference, the Association's new website is up and running!

#### Discussion Boards

Two new discussion boards have recently been added to the new website. Join members and interested individuals online to discuss issues surrounding funding for the study of history, or join a conversation between students and scholars regarding academic success.

Visit the website and join in on the discussion and let us know what you think!

**[www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)**

**Also check us out on Facebook!**



*W/s of No. 11 Can. Gen. Hospital at Inplaw*



## Course Offerings in the History of Nursing

**Découvrez l'évolution d'une profession... totalement en ligne!**

Le cours NSG 4501 *Histoire des soins infirmiers au Canada* est un cours, au choix, de premier cycle de trois crédits offert à l'École des sciences infirmières. Aucun préalable n'est requis. Une expérience unique de cyber-apprentissage!

**Discover the evolution of a profession... completely online!**

NSG 4101 *History of Canadian Nursing* is an undergraduate elective course of three credits offered by the School of Nursing. No pre-requisites required. A unique e-learning experience!

<http://www.health.uottawa.ca/sn/index.htm>

<http://www.sante.uottawa.ca/esi/>



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**D'hier à aujourd'hui, l'étude de l'évolution des pratiques de soins infirmiers**

Le cours NSG 6550 *Contexte historique en sciences infirmières* est un cours d'études supérieures offert à l'École des sciences infirmières. Ce cours favorise une réflexion critique sur le parcours des différentes générations d'infirmières, dans le cadre de pratiques nursing spécifiques, et permet de mieux saisir les acquis, mais aussi les enjeux de la pratique infirmière en ce début de 21<sup>e</sup> siècle.

**Then and now, the study of the evolution in nursing practices**

NSG 6150 *Historical Context in Nursing Practice* is a graduate course offered by the School of Nursing. This course encourages critical reflection on the many generations of nurses, within the context of specific nursing practices, to better understand the past achievements of nursing but also its challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

<http://www.health.uottawa.ca/sn/index.htm>

<http://www.sante.uottawa.ca/esi/>



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## Student Conference March 2011

The History of Medicine Days Conference is an annual two-day, nation-wide conference held at the University of Calgary.

Undergraduates and early graduate students are welcome to give a 10 to 12 minute presentation (with additional discussion time) on the history of medicine and health care. The topics cover a wide range and would include areas from Classics, the History of Public Health, Nursing, Veterinary Medicine, Human Biology and Neuroscience etc. .

The Keynote Speaker will be Dr. George Weisz (Cotton-Hannah Chair in the History of Medicine) in the Department of Social Studies of Medicine at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec.

For any further information on the application for the conference, please visit the website of the Calgary History of Medicine and Healthcare Program <http://www.homhcp.ucalgary.ca>.

The deadline for Abstract Submission is January 14, 2011.

Dr. Frank W. Stahnisch,  
Associate Professor, AMF/Hannah  
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The above courses in nursing history are offered through the School of Nursing at the University of Ottawa. They are available to nursing students and others across the country who have permission from their home institutions to credit these courses as part of their program. The undergraduate courses are totally online; the graduate courses will be offered by distance and may or may not include a real time audio/visual component. For more details of the courses, which are offered in both English and French, please contact Cynthia Toman ([ctoman@uottawa.ca](mailto:ctoman@uottawa.ca)) for the English courses, and Marie-Claude Thifault ([mthifaul@uottawa.ca](mailto:mthifaul@uottawa.ca)) for the French courses.

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# Newsletter

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Fall 2010

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## Executive and committee members for 2010-2011

**President :** Marion McKay (2009-2011)  
[marion\\_mckay@umanitoba.ca](mailto:marion_mckay@umanitoba.ca)

**Vice-President :** Beverley Hicks (2009-2011)  
[hicks@mts.net](mailto:hicks@mts.net)

**Past President:** Geertje Boschma (2009-2011)  
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**Treasurer :** Lorraine Mychajlanow (2010-2012)  
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**Secretary :** Joyce MacQueen (2009-2011)  
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**Membership:** Jayne Elliott, (Chair) (2009-2011)  
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 Cynthia Toman (2010-2012)  
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Carol Helmstadter (2010-2012)  
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**Nominations:** Geertje Boschma (2009-2011)  
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Veryl Tipliski (2010-2012)  
[tipliski@telus.net](mailto:tipliski@telus.net)

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 Beverley Hicks (2009-2011)  
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Chris Dooley (2010 – 2012)  
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Judith Young (2010 – 2012)  
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