

ARCASN PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013-2014

I regret that I am not able to present the ARCASN President's Report for 2013-2014 in person. I thank Cyndee MacPhee, the incoming president for doing this on my behalf. I would like to acknowledge the support from the members of our Executive Committee, our school representatives of as well as all our general membership.

By way of introduction :

The Executive members are:

Outgoing President: Audrey Walsh, CBU

Incoming President: Cyndee MacPhee, CBU

Outgoing Treasurer: Glenda Cunning, Western Region School of Nursing;

Secretary: Suzanne Harrison, Université de Moncton

School Reps are:

Gladys Schofield, Center for Nursing Studies

Janet MacIntyre, University of Prince Edward Island

Suzanne Harrison, Université de Moncton

Brenda Sabo, Dalhousie University

Judy Moody, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Kathryn Weaver, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton

Alexia Barnable, Western Region School of Nursing

Nancy Logue, University of New Brunswick - St. John

Joeanne Whitty-Rogers, St. FX University

Cyndee MacPhee, CBU

President Research Committee: Claudette Taylor, Cape Breton University

President Education Committee: Nancy Logue, University of New Brunswick - St. John

The purpose of ARCASN is to provide an organized body to promote the advancement of nursing research and education in Atlantic Canadian schools of nursing and to cooperate with the other regions in meeting the objectives of the Canadian Associations of Schools of Nursing (CASN). ARCASN includes the four Atlantic Provinces: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador.

ARCASN Activities

ARCASN's executive met three times this past year. Our first meeting was in Corner Brook, NL at the AGM in June. On October 4th, we had a one day meeting at Dalhousie University in Halifax, and on February 26, 2012 the executive met via teleconference.

The 2013 Nursing Research Conference, *Nursing Education : Casting your mind forward* was held at Dalhousie University, Halifax Western Regional School of Nursing, Corner Brook, NL, June 2-3, 2013. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Erna Snelgrove, from Dalhousie University School of Nursing. The conference was well attended and enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Alexia Barnable and Glenda Cunning, for an excellent job.

As ARCASN's President, I attended the CASN Annual Council Meeting in Ottawa (November, 2013). I submitted a written report on our activities and issues.

Elections were held and our two Atlantic Region representatives on the CASN Board of Directors are Evelyn Kennedy Associate Professor from Cape Breton University and Diane Duff Director of the St FX University School of Nursing.

ARCASN's executive continues to meet our mission and reflect the changing needs in our region. In 2013 at our AGM we agree to raise the ARCASN annual fee to \$50.00. This was received well by our membership and has helped us maintain necessary funds to update our ARCASN website and to pursue the activities outlined in our strategic plan.

To celebrate excellence in nursing education and nursing research ARCASN was "pleased to acknowledge the following 2013 award recipients.

Education Innovation Awards:

Lisa Garland Baird (UPEI) - Supporting and facilitating the development of educational expertise in the area of qualitative research and mixed method research design.

JoAnne MacDonald, Diane Duff, & Michelle MacNeil (StFXU). Evaluating the use of iPad as a nursing lab resource tool for learning and evaluating level 2 nursing skills.

Research Awards:

Linda Yetman & Rose McCloskey (University of New Brunswick) - The Impact of a Clinical Practice Experience on Student Nurses' Knowledge and Attitudes towards Older Adults

Marion Alex & Joanne Whitty-Rogers (St FX University); & Nadene Schwartzentruber Brunk , (Midwives for Haiti, Virginia USA & Hinche Haiti) - Experiences of Pregnancy Complications: Voices from Rural Haiti

We look forward to hearing reports of their research at this year's conference.

It was my pleasure to serve as ARCASN President Elect for two years and as ARCASN President for the last two years. I thank all the members of the executive for their hard work and dedication. I wish the new executive all the best during their term.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Walsh