

# BULLETIN



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*The winter season is slowly fading and with the imminent arrival of spring new challenges are waiting for us. The Horatio agenda holds some major items such as our festival and involvement with DG SANCO. Furthermore our expert panel is active and we are refining our website to inform and share information with the public including successes regarding our organisation. With every step it becomes more clear to us that mental health in Europe is getting a lot of attention and Horatio is being asked to be involved in all kinds of projects relating to mental health. With so many requests we have to ration our resources and also share the administrative and organisational workload. A vice-secretary has been appointed, more on this later. Continuing on the topic of workforce issues we would very much welcome greater participation in the work of the organisation by women we hope to see their increased involvement in the future. We welcome the Icelandic Psychiatric Nursing organisation and the mental health Nursing Association (MHNA) as full members.*

## Secretary & Vice-Secretary

As we all know, the present secretary Ber Oomen has been working for quite some years in our organisation and with the help of all those within our organisation helped to lift it to the level we are at. Because the organisation is growing in complexity it had become clear that we needed the extra daily support of an expert in the following domains; education, research and practice development. In the last summer executive meeting held in Dublin and in the last board meeting held in Malta it was decided that the present general secretary will gradually share his tasks with an academic nurse who will focus on the greater integration of improvement in practice development and education from an international perspective. After formal procedures the organisation appointed Roland van de Sande. Roland is a senior lecturer/researcher at Hogeschool Utrecht, University of Applied Science Utrecht and staff nurse/researcher at ParnassiaBavo Mental Health Trust, the Netherlands. Since January this year he has been working with Ber in the role of vice-secretary to share work and responsibilities related to the secretary's position. After summer 2008 Roland will take on the responsibility for being the first contact person for the organisation.

## EU. "A small step for a psychiatric nurse but a giant one for all of us"

In May 2005 we submitted a response to the EU Green paper on Mental health. This response can be found on both the EU website and the Horatio website. In the meantime we have had frequent communications with the policy officers of DG SANCO and have exchanged information on relevant developments. Horatio received a request in early February to participate in the preparation of consensus documents as a major input to the Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA) conference that was organised in cooperation with DG SANCO. This invitation to participate indicates the raised profile of not only Horatio but the discipline of psychiatric nursing in Europe. Horatio will be represented at the conference (also and also representing the EFN [www.efnweb.org](http://www.efnweb.org) and the ESNU [www.esno.org](http://www.esno.org)) by Roland van de Sande and Martin Ward. More information can be found on:



[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_determinants/life\\_style/mental/mental\\_health\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_determinants/life_style/mental/mental_health_en.htm)

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## Horatio Festival of Psychiatric Nursing: the Age of Dialogue

Festival preparations are now well advanced with much of the initial developmental work already undertaken. All the necessary documents are now lodged on the Horatio website at the festival page. You can view the venue, book your hotel, check the flights schedule of Air Malta, the official festival Carrier, and book your flight online with a 10% reduction plus registering for the full festival using the various downloads from the site. Additionally there is information about Malta and this will be developed over the next few months to provide delegates with background to this wonderful Mediterranean island state.



In December 2007 the first call for abstracts flyer was disseminated, primarily by email, to some 25,000 recipients with the closing date set for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. Already we have a large number of papers and this continues to grow. The second reminder call will go out at the end of February. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to send abstracts to the conference email centre [horatiosfestival@gmail.com](mailto:horatiosfestival@gmail.com) concerning any aspect of psychiatric nursing, its education, practice and politics. All titles will be considered for concurrent papers, workshops or poster presentations. The festival will have symposium but these are being recruited separately though some submitted papers may be invited to participate in one of the specialist events. The abstract template can also be found on the Horatio webpage.

The festival has been officially recognised as an associate partner of the European Year of Dialogue and as such will be hosting several of the programmes ambassadors. Key speakers have already been recruited from the EU, WHO, professional and educational backgrounds and European mental health organisations. The event programme will be published on the website once the Horatio Expert Panel, acting as the scientific committee for the conference activities, have made their decisions about the abstracts. The full programme should be available by the end of May 2008.



This exciting venture, the first of its kind in Europe, will attract delegates from all around Europe, plus Australia, Canada, USA, China, Japan, South Africa the Middle East and South America. If you only attend one psychiatric nursing event this year, make sure it is this one and celebrate the work of our profession in style.

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### Horatio – Expert Panel of Psychiatric Nursing

Since Horatio began one of the main areas for development was its Expert Panel. It was agreed at the inaugural meeting of the organisation that specialists from a wide range of psychiatric nursing backgrounds and sub-specialties would be recruited to provide the intelligence necessary to produce position papers, evidence to enquiries and organizational information. The work of recruiting and coordinating the Panel's activities fell to the two Co-Chairs, Martin Ward and Amar Voogt. Initially, only personnel from within Europe were approached but following the congress of Arnhem it was decided to extend this to others around the world who fitted Horatio's needs. Thus the Panel was divided into Europe and the Rest of the World. As the group expanded they were asked to comment on a variety of issues and feed material back to the Executive concerning Horatio requests for comment evidence.



In November 2007 it was decided to further divide the panel into a series of separate specialty and geographical sub-groups, each headed by a lead person who would coordinate their work. Amar moved to take responsibility for the Education sub-group and Professor Peter Nolan was invited to become the second Co-Chair. His role will eventually include responsibility for disseminating to the groups and individual members of the EP for information and guidance to help him prepare position papers and material for publication. Martin remains responsible for recruitment, strategy and co-ordination. The panel currently consists of 32 individuals and recruitment hopes eventually to raise this to a working group of about 100, thus ensuring all subgroups have representation and Horatio is able to seek advice on any subject related to psychiatric nursing and mental health.

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Their most recent position statement has been the response for comment from the European Forum for Primary Care (EFRC) concerning Depression. This can be found at the Publications section of the Horatio website. Its first publication was the Horatio response to the EU green paper on mental health and as a consequence of this response and Horatio's growing profile in European Mental Health care activities, the organisation has been invited to attend a series of day seminars in Luxembourg to provide material for the next stage of the development of the EU Commission's strategy. During these four days the Panel will be represented by Martin Ward and Roland van de Sande. A high level conference in June, in Brussels, will see the result of this work published to a wider audience.

### Personal message: Women working in mental health - Women at the margins

#### Dear Mental Health and Psychiatric nurses in Europe.

I have been a mental health nurse for twenty three years and have spent a long time in consideration of the needs of women in mental health services and am aware of the discrimination and marginalisation that women as users of mental health services may face. However for some years I have also become aware that women working in mental health services also seem to be 'on the margins'. Although the nursing workforce is predominantly female in numbers, management and leadership seems to be in the hands of men. Often I have sat in mental health conferences and meetings where the panel of plenary speakers or the chair of the meeting is male. There is, I believe, no distinct female 'voice' in mental health nor are there many women in high academic positions in mental health nursing. Is this because women have 'nothing to say' (doubtful) or that they either don't have a voice? Or is it that they feel that what they have to say may not 'fit' current thinking? Whatever the reason it is an area that needs to be addressed by men and women in an arena that is non-defensive and honest. For example are women under represented on mental health conference platforms because they don't come forward or it is because they are not asked or selected? As a woman are you reluctant to speak up in public arenas? Do women for example have less space to talk or is it because they lack confidence in a male led and orientated profession? I welcome your views in opening up this debate and hope to hear your opinions.



Christine Hogg, Senior Lecturer in Mental Health Nursing. University of Salford, Manchester UK,  
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### CONGRESS NEWS

#### Mental Health Europe Conference 2008

You are invited to the "Diversity in Mental Health and Wellbeing – An Opportunity for Intercultural Dialogue" conference to be held in Aalborg (Denmark), 7th – 9th August 2008

This conference is inspired by the declaration of the European Commission that 2008 will be the Year of Intercultural Dialogue. The conference is a joint venture between SIND (Danish Association for Mental Health), and the Community-Psychiatry of Aalborg.

This conference will explore the concept that cultural diversity is not limited to the ethnic dimension alone. It has a philosophical dimension (mental health and wellbeing) and is also related to other areas such as, the cultural dimension of the various health systems, the cultural differences that exist in the practice of health professionals and in the provision of care and treatment.

Lectures, discussions and workshop will give an opportunity for sharing information, ideas and deepening knowledge and an opportunity for exchange of best practices. Participants coming from European countries will contribute with their own experience on diversity within different dimensions of cultures.

For further information on the conference, please visit [www.mhe-aalborg.dk](http://www.mhe-aalborg.dk), or [www.mhe-sme.org](http://www.mhe-sme.org)



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**The European Federation of Nurse Educators /FINE:** <http://www.fine-europe.eu> / will hold its in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 9-10 October 2008 under the motto "Nursing Education on the Move: What about Educators' Competences". The formal languages are English and French. The College of Medicine at Medical University Plovdiv is hosting the event.

Registration and abstract submission is available at <http://www.conference.fine-europe.eu>. Abstract deadline is 1 May 2008



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## CROATIAN PSYCHIATRIC NURSES ASSOCIATION.

Pula, Croatia, 12th to 14th June. Overall theme is: Youngsters – addiction

problems- families. Information President of Psychiatric nurses society: Renata Golubić, vms, Tel 013490094, Fax 3492577 e-mail: [vladimir.golubic@zg.htnet.hr](mailto:vladimir.golubic@zg.htnet.hr)

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### Call for Abstracts - Workplace Violence in the Health Sector

You are invited to submit a paper, poster or register to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> International conference on “*Workplace Violence in the Health Sector*” to be held on the 22-24 October 2008 in Amsterdam. Abstracts must be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to the Chair, Scientific Committee. The focus of the conference will be on violence against health care workers. The



aims of the conference are to: - Sensitize stakeholders to the issue of workplace violence - Understand the manifestations and the human - professional and economic implications of workplace violence - Promote effective policies and strategies to create safe work environments. For more information see at : <http://www.oudconsultancy.nl/>

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**RPNC World Congress, 22 – 24 May 2008, Regina, Canada,**

[www.rpnc.ca](http://www.rpnc.ca)

**Theme, A Different Drummer – Registered Psychiatric Nurses C – Clinical A – Administration R – Research E – Education**



## VIOLENCE IN THE WORLD

### IRAQ - Rehabilitation Under Fire

A new report “*Rehabilitation under fire: health care in Iraq 2003-7*” will be launched on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 50 Bedford Square (annex), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London WC1B 3DP by Medact.

Medact is an organization of health professionals who highlight the health consequences of war, poverty, environmental degradation and other major threats to global health. Medact is affiliated with the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.



This report describes, since the 2003 invasion, the failure of the occupying forces and their governments to protect health, or to help rebuild the Iraqi health services based on primary health care principles. It describes the current state of the health system: the impact of insecurity on the workforce, the chronic lack of supplies, medicines and equipment as well as the dominating effects of economic and political interests. One of the major concerns was the failure to respect the Geneva Conventions related to medical neutrality. It also outlines the urgent measures needed to improve health and health services including mental health. Key recommendations of the report are: - greater support for the World Health Organization in the region - more space for Iraqis’ to determine which health system they need - more flexible funding for initiatives to meet humanitarian needs.

For more information see at: [www.medact.org](http://www.medact.org) .

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### International Council of Nurses condemns violence against health workers in Kenya and supports the National Nurses Association of Kenya call for protection of patients and health workers

Geneva, Switzerland, 1st February 2008 - The International Council of Nurses (ICN) today strongly condemned all forms of violence against health workers in Kenya and expressed support for the National Nurses Association of Kenya (NNAK) appeal to protect health workers and patients during the continuing violence and social chaos in Kenya.

See more at [www.icn.ch](http://www.icn.ch)



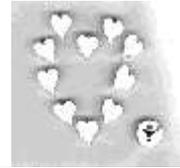
## OTHER NEWS

### Website developments.

While looking at the first developments the website, it is still growing and this is important because the hits we registrar are from al over the world. The aim is to give a professional touch but we also want to add this personal atmosphere. For this reasons we have started to add pictures and started with the board members; see at <http://www.horatio-web.eu/members-board.html>



**IND**, International Nurses Day theme and to provide a PDF preview of the poster art work: Delivering Quality, Serving Communities, Nurses Leading Primary Health Care, [www.icn.ch](http://www.icn.ch)



## Join Horatio as Member or sponsor.

By supporting our 'young' association by member or sponsor, you are helping us making our goals achieve. For questions or remarks, contact our office and visit our website at. <http://www.horatio-web.eu/membership.html>



## SPONSOR NEWS

**Development of the Galatean Risk Screening Tool: GRiST** continues and interest in its use is growing. The past few months have been particularly exciting, with the following notable milestones:

- Inclusion of GRiST as a recommended multiple risk assessment tool within the UK Department of Health's document 'Best Practice in Managing Risk' (June 2007)
- Christopher Buckingham (project leader and developer) being invited to present GRiST to the Irish State Claims Department
- Formal adoption of GRiST within Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Trust as part of their integrated care record
- Receiving funding from the Burdett Trust for Nursing for initial evaluation of GRiST in practice, and to assist with development of the web-based version
- Publication of a GRiST project paper, 'Cues and knowledge structures used by mental-health professionals when making risk assessments' in the Journal of Mental Health.

Information about GRiST is available on our website at [www.galassify.org/grist](http://www.galassify.org/grist) Here you can read about the aims and objectives of GRiST, the research that underpinned its development, and about the development team. You will also find available on the web the latest paper-based version of GRiST which you can download and review. Please feel free to test GRiST within your clinical practice, and do send us any feedback. We are always open to suggestions for improving GRiST. Future plans include developing a version of GRiST for service users, for self assessment of risk. Watch this space! For more Information; Christopher Buckingham [c.d.buckingham@aston.ac.uk](mailto:c.d.buckingham@aston.ac.uk) and Ann Adams [a.e.adams@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:a.e.adams@warwick.ac.uk)

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