

International Council of Nurses Announces New Nursing Education Network

GENEVA, Switzerland, 07 January 2009 A new International Council of Nurses (ICN) Network has been established to promote excellence in nursing education to prepare a diverse 21st century nursing workforce. New realities of international migration, easier movement across and between countries, advanced communication technology, global health care, and a worldwide nursing shortage make the preparation of a diverse nursing workforce a critical priority. ICN has responded positively to strong interest from several of its member national nurses associations (NNAs), coordinated by the National League for Nursing (NLN)*, to establish the ICN Nursing Education Network. The new network will provide a forum to address nursing educational issues worldwide.

“The ICN Education Network is a significant step forward in addressing nursing education and strengthening its contribution to the global health agenda,” stated ICN President Hiroko Minami. “We need the voice of educators as we deal with the challenges of regulation and practice.”

“ICN advocates for nursing education to ensure that graduates enter clinical practice equipped to successfully manage the conditions of health care delivery they encounter. We are pleased to stimulate an interest and marshal commitment to the establishment of this network. We look forward to working and supporting ICN towards a successful launch in Durban in 2009,” asserted NLN CEO Beverly Malone.

The network’s inaugural meeting will be held during the 24th ICN Quadrennial Congress, 27 June- 4 July 2009, in Durban, South Africa. Several countries have already signaled interest in collaborating on the development of an agenda, and the NLN has offered to work with ICN, its member NNAs and interested individuals and educational organizations in moving forward. Among the primary items for exploration will be the international shortages in the nursing workforce and in nursing faculty that exist in many countries.

*The **International Council of Nurses** is a federation of national nurses’ associations in 132 countries, representing the millions of nurses working worldwide. Founded in 1899, ICN is the world’s first and widest-reaching international organization for health professionals. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all and sound health policies globally.*

Dedicated to excellence in nursing, the **National League for Nursing is the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education, offering faculty*

development, networking opportunities, testing and assessment, nursing research grants, and public policy initiatives to its 27,000 individual and 1,200 institutional members.

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