Chair’s Report
Kathleen L. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN

This is my last chair’s report and I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of our committee chairs, committee members, liaisons, fellows, and everyone who has contributed so much to our council during the last two years! Our council members have truly exemplified what it means to be an AHA volunteer. I’d also like to introduce Dorothy Lanuza, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Susan Bennett, DNS, RN, FAAN (our new council chair and vice-chair). Please welcome them to a rewarding and exciting time for our council leadership.

We have some very exciting news from our council. Cardiac Nursing, 5th edition (edited by Susan L. Woods, Erika Sivarajan Froelicher, Sandra Underhill Motzer and Elizabeth Bridges), will join the few, prestigious cardiovascular texts available online to AHA members who join at the premium professional level. For more information, visit the CVN Web site at www.americanheart.org. We are delighted that such an excellent nursing textbook is now available for purchase on-line to our members. In addition, our affiliation with The Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing provides our members (at all levels of membership) with the opportunity to subscribe at a 30 percent discount. These are two very good reasons to join our council if you have not already done so!

Our CVN committees continue to be very active and productive. The Program Committee is preparing for our second annual Saturday pre-conference just before Scientific Sessions in November 2005, as well as the abstract sessions, cardiovascular symposia, and how-to sessions. So, please join us in Dallas for Scientific Sessions 2005. Be sure to check the box on your application and reserve your dinner ticket to join the CVN Council for dinner on Tuesday evening. Dinner tickets go fast!

The Communications and Membership Committee is busy with new recruiting initiatives to let all cardiovascular nurses know about the unique professional benefits, opportunities, and wonderful networking available through council membership. So, stay tuned for much more and visit our CVN Web site via www.americanheart.org. Our clinical sub-committees (Stroke, Pediatrics and Prevention) are busy writing scientific statements, thereby contributing to the body of knowledge in cardiovascular nursing. And we have so many more committees participating in so many more activities. So, if you have not already done so, please join the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing…there is so much you can gain and so much you can give.

It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your chair.

Happenings at NHLBI

Dr. Elizabeth G. Nabel was appointed director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) on Feb. 1, 2005. Dr. Nabel is a leading scientist and recognized expert in the development of novel genetic and cellular therapies for cardiovascular disease. As both a researcher and a clinician, she has championed the concept from bench to bedside.

Dr. Nabel has previously served on the American Heart Association Board of Directors; the Scientific Publishing Committee (chair); the Council on Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (chair); the executive committee of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences; and the Science Advisory and Coordinating Committee.

For more information about NHLBI, visit http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/index.htm

Mark your calendar now for Kissimmee, Florida, Feb. 15, 2006, at the Gaylord Palms

The State-of-the-Art Stroke Nursing Symposium 2006 is designed to provide current information and networking opportunities for nursing and other healthcare professionals who treat patients and families in all phases of stroke treatment from the emergency department through rehabilitation. The symposium will update and inform the audience about nursing issues along the continuum of stroke care (prevention, acute treatment, rehabilitation, and research). The major focus will be to describe best clinical practices that are recommended to optimize patient outcomes using research and science-based evidence that is currently available.
Why Not Become GeroSmart?

The National Competence on Aging (NCA) initiative seeks to improve the quality of health care of older adults by enhancing the geriatric competence of members of approximately 57 specialty nursing associations, including the Council of Cardiovascular Nurses (CVN) and the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association (PCNA). By accessing the Web-based Comprehensive Geriatric Nursing Resource Center “GeroNurse Online,” nurses can find best-practice information, learn about gerontology certification, test their aging IQ, and much more. Users can create an account to access a wide variety of resources including a listing of each of the American Nurses Association-Specialty Nursing Association Partners in Geriatrics (ANA-SNAPGs) organizations.

Through the Web site (www.GeroNurseOnline.org), CVN members can link to the “Care of the Older Adult with Cardiovascular Disease Survey” on the CVN Web site. By participating in the survey, CVN can determine program needs of cardiovascular nurses in order to develop and maintain competency in the care of older adults.

Additionally, PCNA has developed a special Geriatric Nursing section on its Web site (www.pcnanet.com) designed to give cardiovascular nurses information, including articles of interest, clinical resources specific to the care of older adults, Medicare reimbursement updates, grant opportunities and links to other resources including a link to GeroNurseOnline.

Dr. Sandra Dunbar Appointed to AHA Research Committee

Sandra Dunbar, RN, DNS, FAAN, Charles Howard Candler Professor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., was appointed a member of the Research Committee, American Heart Association. Dr. Dunbar received the Distinguished Research Lecture Award from AACN in May 2005 at NTI. We congratulate Dr. Dunbar on her appointment and look forward to her continued work as an AHA volunteer.

News from the National Institute of Nursing Research


Asthma, the most common childhood chronic disease, affects roughly 4.8 million children in the U.S., and the rate of asthma has been steadily rising. School health nurses, especially in rural areas, have to deal with the increasing prevalence of this chronic disease among the children they oversee. The nurses often are only able to address acute episodes and may lack the resources to teach asthma self-management strategies.

School nurses can now use the My Asthma Coloring Book© as an educational tool. Written at a 2nd grade reading level, the book presents positive images common to the rural environment that allow children to focus on specific topics as they read the stories and color the pictures. The children are encouraged to take the book home and share it with their parents. The book is available for download from the Pediatric Nursing Web site: http://www.ajn.com/services/pblshng/pnj/. For more information, check the CVN Web site at www.americanheart.org

The National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR), the advisory board to NINR, meets on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Md., three times each year. In January 2005, NACNR discussed research initiatives for Fiscal Year 2007, including:

- Physical Activity and Comorbidities in Mobility-Limiting Disorders
- Reducing Health Disparities Among Children
- Transitions in the Pediatric Cancer Trajectory
- Biotechnology in Self-Management and Informal Caregiving
- Providing End-of-Life and Palliative Care in Rural and Frontier Areas
- Multicultural Issues in HIV Research
- Opportunities for Research in Environmental Health

Minutes for past NACNR meetings and announcements for upcoming meetings are available on the NINR Web site at http://ninnr.nih.gov/ninr/about/adv-council.html.

Beginning this October, concurrent with the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS) conference in Washington, D.C., NINR will initiate a year-long celebration leading into our 20th anniversary in 2006. A kick-off symposium at NIH on Oct. 11, 2005, will examine some of the major research priorities of NINR, including end-of-life science, HIV/AIDS and health disparities, harnessing technology, and symptom management. Please check the NINR Web site at http://ninnr.nih.gov/ninr for details.

Joint Session Between CVN and the European Society of Cardiology Cardiovascular Nursing Working Group

The European Society of Cardiology Congress 2005 will take place in Stockholm, Sweden, on Sept. 3–7, 2005. A joint session between CVN and ESC titled “Cardiovascular risk management: the difference nurses can make” is tentatively planned for Sunday, Sept. 4, at 11 a.m. CVN is well represented with chairpersons Anna Stromberg and Debra Moser and speakers Erika Froelicher and Martha Hill. For more information visit www.escardio.org