



**All Ireland Gerontological Nurses Association
Operational Plan**

2010-2013

Actions (People Responsible)

1. Aim to recruit 50 new members annually (Mary Murphy, Brigid O'Brien, Ann Scott, Eileen Crowley)

- a) Raise awareness of AIGNA across health and social care organisations; policy makers locally, nationally, internationally; staff representatives; and education providers.
- Identify all continuing care facilities (public and private) both in the RoI and NI
 - Identify all directors of public health nursing in the RoI and Directors of Primary Care Nursing in NI
 - Compile an e-mail list where possible to forward application forms, conference flyers and info on AIGNA to encourage new membership.
 - Post applications, conference flyers and information where we cannot obtain e-mail addresses.
 - Promote AIGNA at any conferences, study days that we are aware of.
- b) Encourage AIGNA members to cite their AIGNA membership in their professional profiles for local, national and international conferences/publications etc... thus creating a widespread awareness of the expertise contained within AIGNA

2. Promote AIGNA Activities to demonstrate the benefits of AIGNA membership (Doreen Lynch, Patricia Fehin, Assumpta Ryan)

- a) Disseminate information through conferences, publications, mail shots and networking.
- Develop a flyer for distribution at conferences that members attend with permission of organisers
 - Distribute to organisations that deliver education on care of the older person as information leaflets
 - Use AIGNA as a LINK attachment to all emails of members
- b) Have in place a monthly programme of website developments and updates.
- Each committee member to select a 3 month period when they will be responsible for updating the website. Two committee members per 3 month period to manage web site content.
 - Identify a range of material deemed appropriate
 - Develop guidelines/SOP for posting information on web site

- c) Host annual accredited conference and masterclass
 - At the AGM ,management committee to select venue for annual conference
 - Local team to organise conference with assistance of committee
 - Master class each October in a different venue to the conference each year
 - AIGNA committee members to be responsible for organising 'events'

- d) Submit 5 publications annually to Nursing Journals, Health Board/Trust Magazines, professional body publications and national print and news media.
 - 4 publications February, May/June, September/October and November//December (to coincide with AIGNA events)
 - Use research people have been involved in
 - Use practice development
 - Use Literature reviews
 - January of each year send out expression of interest to members and link them if necessary with the writing team
 - Have publications guidelines available from journals

- e) Develop 'writing teams' of experienced and new writers so that the promotion of AIGNA activities is a collaborative endeavour.
 - Develop a list of experienced writers to act as mentors

- - email AIGNA members to ascertain
 - AIGNA members with writing for publication experience
 - who are willing to share their expertise through
 - 'writing for publication' workshops x 3 annually
 - working collaboratively with AIGNA member involved in Gerontological nursing initiatives who would like to publish / disseminate their practice initiatives.

- f) All AIGNA executive/management committee members to participate in one publication annually.

- AIGNA committee members to participate in writing teams as outlined in action 7

g) Encourage new members to highlight their specialist areas of practice when joining AIGNA in order to highlight the range of specialists involved in the association.

- Have space on the application form for this to be identified

3. **Demonstrate leadership in Gerontological Nursing (*Sinead Fitzpatrick, Caroline Connelly, Ann Scott, Mary J. Foley*)**

a) Each year, working in partnership with AIGNA members, develop submissions in response to key policy initiatives and express an informed opinion in matters relating to gerontological nursing.

- Role of the Nurse in Residential Care (Brendan and Hazel Heath)

b) Proactively secure positions on key policy and strategy working groups relevant to older people and gerontological nursing.

- Future Direction for Community Hospitals & Residential Care Settings (Brendan and Mary J)
- National Nurses Forum
- Single Assessment Tool Working Group (Doreen Lynch)
- Distribute information re AIGNA, seeking involvement in key policy and strategy working groups relevant to older people.

c) Ensure annual conference topic/presentations are current, capture media attention and adhere to the association's strategic objectives.

- Title, presenters & presentations selection based on the above.
- Seek abstract submissions relevant to title & showcase innovative practice.
- Advertise Conference : NHI newsletter, AIGNA newsletter, ?HSE Heath Matters
- Contact media prior to conference to generate interest / publicity
- Conference Evaluation

b) Committee members to attend and present the work of AIGNA at 1 (minimum) international event.

- Submit abstracts to international events:
 - 'Older persons, the future of care' Rotterdam Oct 2010 (Mary J)
 - Enhancing Practice 10 – September 2010 (Mary J and Brendan)

- c) AIGNA to work collaboratively with other individuals, organizations and institutions in order to foster working relationships that advance the objectives of the Association.
 - Distribute information re AIGNA, through existing links & new contacts identified by targeting key stakeholders.
 - Email introductory letter to other associations etc maximizing opportunities for collaboration that will further aims & objectives of the association.

- d) Target professional regulatory bodies and curriculum planners in order to create awareness of the requirement for expert gerontological nursing knowledge both at undergraduate and post graduate levels.
 - AIGNA to respond to curriculum changes affecting gerontological nursing.
 - AIGNA membership forms to be administered to students pursuing a higher diploma in gerontological nursing.

- e) By the end of 2010, prepare a policy position and promotional framework to attract more nurses to specialist gerontological nursing programmes and areas of practice.

- f) Send written request the Dept of Health and Children to add AIGNA to their stakeholders list.

- g) AIGNA to devise their own stakeholders list comprising of professionals, policy makers and clinicians
 - Compile a contact distribution list of key stakeholders for each category to enable efficient and cost-effective communication.
 - Utilise these lists to request AIGNA is added to their key stakeholder lists and is included in newsletters/ bulletin distributions etc

4. Provide a platform for the voices of nurses working with older people to be informed, informing and transforming (*Patricia Fehin, Catherine Buckley, Doreen Lynch*)

a)

AIGNA to provide resources via its website that demonstrate national and international developments in gerontological nursing.

- AIGNA to maintain links with current collaborators on its website and to develop new links by contacting website operators who have input into Gerontological nursing.
- AIGNA logo, link to AIGNA website and/or conference/membership advertisement to be on a minimum of 5 websites by 30th April 2010; 10 websites by 30th September 2010; and review 4 monthly thereafter.
- Website links to other non-nursing / commercial organisations and associations from AIGNA website subject to AIGNA 'marketing opportunities' (currently under development).
- Webmaster to trawl internet 3 times a year to identify potential collaborators and to post these on the AIGNA useful links section after assessing their validity and usefulness.

b) Commence and actively promote/facilitate 2 new discussion forums annually focusing on key policy issues and strategic developments.

- Monitor and assess political and healthcare policy to identify areas that can be developed into discussion forums for AIGNA website. New discussion forum to be created on AIGNA web site 1st week in May 2010 and/or the 1st week in September 2010 (1 month before conference/ master-class) AND throughout the year, in response to national policy/initiatives, to encourage active engagement with members.

c) Formalise links with other international Gerontological associations and support participation of these associations at the AIGNA annual conference.

- Identify international Gerontological associations, make contact and formalize links accordingly.
- A minimum of 1 international Gerontological nurse to present at AIGNA's annual conference – preferably a nurse with links to national / international Gerontological nursing association(s).

d) Maintain a data base of recognized post graduate Gerontological nursing programmes and their providers on the island of Ireland.

- Contact higher education facilities and invite them to post their Gerontological courses on the AIGNA website each year prior to the commencement of the college year. AIGNA to maintain this database and update yearly.
- AIGNA members to become active members of curriculum development groups in HE institutions.
- Identify members who are working in colleges and invite/encourage them to participate on college curriculum development forums to further the objectives of AIGNA.
- Details of Post-Graduate Gerontological nursing programmes within Ireland to be obtained and programme name, duration and application closing date(s) to be posted on 'education' link of AIGNA's web page within 3 months.
- Programmes of study offered by commercial education providers are subject to AIGNA 'marketing opportunities' (currently under development).
- AIGNA to develop a position statement outlining AIGNA's vision for both undergraduate and post graduate nursing curriculum in relation to Gerontological/older adult nursing by December 2010. AIGNA members, who attend curriculum planning meetings can utilise this document/position statement when curriculum is being planned.

5. Become credible and authoritative in knowledge generation and translation (*Brendan McCormack, Assumpta Ryan, Eilis Geraghty, Claire O'Tuathail*)

a) Identify issues of concern for older people/Gerontological nurses and establish a scientific committee of AIGNA members with a track record in attaining research funding.

- Canvas the views of AIGNA members on priorities for research and development and develop a Research Strategy outlining priority areas ensuring that these are in line with current government policy and plans.

b) Host a biennial event to scope the research priorities of gerontological nurses in Ireland.

- Set up a biennial event, linked to the AIGNA conference to scope research priorities and monitor progress with activities

c) Identify research themes congruent with the Associations aims, objectives and mission statement, national/international research priorities (i.e. HRB, CARDI, Age Action Ireland, NCNM) and national and international trends.

- Develop a list of potential funding bodies and identify their research priorities and themes. Map this list against the priorities

identified by AIGNA and the scientific committee

- d) Develop research proposals; apply for research funding and/or commission research.
 - Work with represented academic institutions (University of Ulster, University College Cork, NUI Galway) to develop proposals that are consistent with our research priorities.
- e) Work towards having a research bursary scheme in place by the end of 2010.
 - Develop guidelines and information for applicants drawing on the research priorities identified in AIGNA's research strategy.
- f) Create 'research highlights' on the website and newsletter that profile key aspects of new knowledge relevant to gerontological nursing.
 - The research priorities of AIGNA will be posted on the website and these will be accompanied by relevant literature.
- g) Identify AIGNA members with a local, national and/or international profile who are willing to utilize their extensive contacts to advance AIGNA's profile at local, national and international events (through their organizations, at conferences etc...) in order that AIGNA is recognized for its member's expertise in matters concerning older people / Gerontological nursing.
 - Prepare a template for members to complete at the time of registration/renewal outlining their interest, expertise and membership of local, national or international organisations with a remit for the care of older people. Alternatively this could be done on-line.
- h) Commission research in key areas where there is a need to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and expertise of nurses working with older people.
 - Based on the priorities identified as part of AIGNA's Research strategy, commission research to demonstrate the importance of high quality gerontological nursing.