Special Interest Group Nursing Informatics (Updated April 2013)

Website: http://www.imiani.org

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Objectives

- Explore the scope of Nursing Informatics and its implications for health policy and information handling activities associated with evidence based nursing practice, nursing management, nursing research, nursing education, standards and patient (or client) decision making and the various relationships with other health informatics entities.
- Identify priorities or gaps and make recommendations for future developments in nursing informatics.
- Support the development of nursing informatics in member countries and promote nursing informatics worldwide.
- Promote linkages and collaborative activities with national and international nursing and health informatics groups and nursing and health care organisations globally.
- Provide, promote and support informatics meetings, conferences, and electronic communication forums to enable opportunities for the sharing of ideas, developments and knowledge.
- Participate in IMIA working groups and special interest groups to present a nursing perspective.
- Develop recommendations, guidelines, tools and courses relating to nursing informatics.
- Encourage the publication and dissemination of research and development materials in the field of nursing informatics.
- Support and work with patients, families, communities and societies to adopt and manage informatics approaches to healthcare.

**Recent Activities**

1. **NI2012**
   NI2012 (the 11th International Congress on Nursing Informatics) was held in 23 June – 27 June 2012, Hilton Montreal Bonaventure, Montreal, Canada. Montreal, Canada. Theme was “Advancing Global Health through Informatics”.

   This congress was hosted jointly by the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) on behalf of the countries in the Americas and the International Medical Informatics Association – Nursing Informatics (IMIA-NI). Tutorials were conducted on 23 and 24 June 2012 with the main congress opening on 24 June 2012 and concluding on 27 June 2012. Following the main congress there was an invitational only post-conference, held from 27-30 June 2012, for 29 delegates at Manoir, Saint Sauveur, about one hour away from Montreal.

   The theme of the NI2012 conference was “Advancing Global Health through Informatics” which was reflecting the team-centred and interdisciplinary approach required to truly transform the health of nations, communities and patients. The conference provided an opportunity to meet with colleagues and leaders in informatics-enabled practice, education, management, research, health policy, global health and patient-centred care.

   The congress was attended by over 600 delegates from 38 countries. The New Zealand contingent consisted of five people this year.

   The scientific programme consisted of nearly 400 presentations which included 3 plenary keynote speeches, 1 plenary panel, 5 tutorials, 100 paper presentations, 7 scientific demonstrations, 5 workshops, 23 panel sessions and 250 posters. There were 20 exhibitors. The scientific programme was compiled from peer-reviewed submissions selected for inclusion by expert review committee with representatives from around the world.

   This conference provided new opportunities for participation. Some of the sessions were, for the first time, webcast. Although an English language conference, there was a session presented in French and some sessions had simultaneous translation services from English to Spanish available. The plenary panel “Nursing Informatics: Perspectives from the Americas” had a number of Spanish speakers and that session was translated to and from Spanish and English depending on which language was used by the speaker.

   Another reflection on how technology is now pervasive was the availability of a mobile NI2012 application allowing attendees to browse the programme and create a personalised electronic itinerary on their mobile device. The app was available as a native iOS (iPhone/iPad) or as a HTML5 Web app for all major mobile devices (iPhone/iPad, Android, Blackberry 7 and above).

2. **IMIA-NI GA**
   IMIA-NI GA was held on 23 June 2012. There are currently 28 IMIA-NI country (now referred to as society) representatives. In addition there are some other countries who are observing members as they do not have a representative at IMIA level. During the meeting two new honorary memberships were awarded to Peter Murray (UK) and Paula Procter (UK) in recognition of their work supporting and leading nursing informatics.

   One of the major topics discussed with the proposed new bylaws which had been redrafted to align with the new bylaws of the parent body, IMIA. These bylaws had previously been circulated for comments so only required final discussion on points that had changed or needing clarification. At the end of the meeting the bylaws were ratified by the IMIA-NI General Assembly. They will be tabled for approval by the IMIA General Assembly in their next meeting in September 2012.
Another major item for discussion was the NI conference cycle in the future. As IMIA now hosts a MedInfo conference every two years from 2013, it has been decided to hold NI conferences biennially in the intervening years, instead of triennially. The next NI conference is NI2014 in Taipei, Taiwan. From NI2016 (host country yet to be confirmed) the pattern of a full NI conference alternating with a “light” conference (NI2018) will be trialled. The format of this light conference is yet to be confirmed.

At the end of the meeting the current chairperson Heimar Marin (Brazil) stood down and Hyeoun-Ae Park (Korea) was inaugurated into the chairperson position. The meeting confirmed the Board positions for the term 2012-2016 as:

- Hyeoun-Ae Park (Korea) – Chairperson
- Lucy Westbrooke (New Zealand) – Vice-chair Membership
- Kaja Saranto (Finland) - Vice-chair Working Groups
- Susan Newbold (USA) – Vice-chair Communications
- Joanne Foster (Australia) – Vice-chair Administration and Finance

3. NI2012 Post-Congress Conference
An invitational only post-conference was also held 27-30 June 2012 for twenty-nine participants following NI2012 main congress. This was a three day “working” conference with the theme of “The Art and Science of Implementation”. The participants were from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, France, Japan, Korea, Norway, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Qatar, Slovenia, Switzerland, Taiwan and the United States.

The introduction to post conference stated “In spite of the growing evidence of the efficacy of ICT to support practice, implementing them successfully into routine care remains a challenge. The fact that it typically takes 14-20 years to implement interventions that have demonstrated efficacy in controlled trials into practices, is an international concern that is gaining increased attention to practice implementation as a research and practice issue in its own right. Many ICT systems have failed, or have unintended consequences, because of neglect to systematically account for contextual factors such as; the collaborative nature of clinical work and need for organizational learning, organizational leadership, attitudes toward innovation, and neglect of users’ judgments about a systems’ feasibility, time requirements, and usefulness in daily life and clinical practice”

The purpose of the NI 2012 post-conference was to “address challenges related to the implementation of ICT systems from different perspectives: a science perspective, the state of art on methods and theoretical frameworks aiding effective translation of ICT systems into practice and guide informatics research. In addition, important implementation challenges as they pertain to leadership, informatics specialists, and education for practice and science was examined through presentations, case studies, and group work.

4. IMIA-NI Student Forum
After NI2012, a group of students got together online and created a student forum under the leadership of Max Topaz (U of Penn). Student Forum reviewed IMIA strategic plan and came up a list of comments. I took this to IMIA board meeting and officially introduced as a work of IMIA-NI students forum. These comments will be fed into a process of revising IMIA strategic plan.

5. HIMSS APac NI Committee
A NI symposium was held on Sep. 16 at the Marina Bay Sands Hotel Convention Center. HIMSS Asia Pacific NI Committee was formed at HIMSS APac 2012.

6. NI Committee in China
Professional Committee of NI in CMIA (Chinese Medical Informatics Association), China was formed at APAMI2012 held in Beijing, China. Chinese NI group called Professional Committee of Nursing Informatics was revived with a very formal ceremony held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Sun Palace in Beijing during the APAMI 2012. After almost one hour long ceremony, nursing informatics forum with three presentations was held. Hyeoun-Ae Park, Peter Murray, Carol Hullin, and Polun Chang eyewitnessed this event. About 150 Chinese nurses participated in this event. Ying (Helen) Wu was elected as the chair of this group.

Future Activities
2013 IMIA-NI GA will be held on August 20(Tuesday) in Copenhagen during Medinfo 2013
NI2014 (the 12th International Congress on Nursing Informatics) will be held 21-25 June 2014 in Taipei,
Taiwan.