NTERNATIONAL MEDICAL INFORMATICS ASSOCIATION

Nursing Informatics
1990 February 27

Working Group 8

Hans Peterson, Director
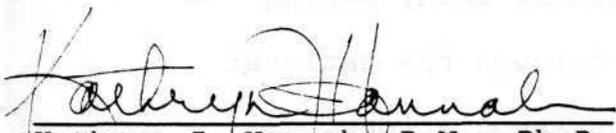Health Care Informatics
Box 9099
S - 102 72 Stockholm
SWEDEN

Dear Hans:

I am writing in reply to Professor Dr. J.L. Willems' letter of December 28, 1989. At its meeting in Singapore, Working Group 8 decided that it would prefer to become a task force under the revised bylaws of IMIA. A subcommittee was established to review our aims objectives and goals. This subcommittee is composed of Ms. Ulla Gerdin-Jelger, Mrs. Elly Pluyter-Wenting, Dr. Bill Holzemer, and Ms. Susan Norman. This subcommittee will be reporting to the Working Group at the meeting in Glasgow. Until that time, Working Group 8 will be operating under its current aims and objectives as outlined in the enclosed brochure. At the meeting in Glasgow we will also be reviewing the enclosed draft roles and functions for the executive and members of the Working Group.

I trust this is the information that you require. Should additional information be necessary please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Kathryn J. Hannah, R.N., Ph.D.
Director of Nursing: Systems, Research and Education
and
Professor, Faculty of Nursing, The University of Calgary
and
Chairman, IMIA Working Group 8: Nursing Informatics

KJH:rjb

cc: Prof. Dr. J.L. Willems (encl)
     Ms. Ulla Gerdin-Jelger
     Mrs. Elly Pluyter-Wenting
     Ms. Susan Norman
     Mr. Bill Holzemer
     Dr. Judy Ronald

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DRAFT

IMIA WORKING GROUP 8 (NURSING)

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

The main role of all the officers and members of the group is to help the group fulfil its stated objectives.

1. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman has both a reactive and strategic role. Features include:-

i) Promoting the exploration of the scope of nursing informatics with and through the group.

ii) Noting when new countries are joining IMIA, making links with the IMIA member and, through the national nursing and professional computer associations, seeking a nurse member to represent the country.

iii) Giving support to the IMIA member and their nursing contacts and helping them with first conferences, giving advice, suggesting people to contact, sharing ideas, helping to confirm the credibility of what they are doing in their own country and giving them assistance to adequately describe their computing/nursing developments, plans and problems.

iv) Recognising the potential of group members and playing a facilitative role in putting this to good use.

v) Initiating meetings in conjunction with Medical Informatics to maximize the opportunity of group members being together and to minimize costs.

vi) Ensuring developments and achievements identified in a particular country are shared with the group as a whole.

vii) Identifying nursing informatics problems and needs that are common across countries and making appropriate responses.

viii) To recognise the need to initiate and facilitate publications and to use appropriate influence to get publications out.

ix) Strategic roles include: prioritizing issues; - identifying training needs and disseminating examples of good practice; initiating appropriate task force meetings to develop guidelines etc where needs for this remain unmet; ensuring that working conferences are sensitive to the wider issues of health care, major new informatics incentives and above all, the

multi-disciplinary health care team approach; also, that working conferences undertake a wider exploration of specific issues that are appropriately chosen for their current relevance and future significance.

x)   Recognising that group members are mature professional in their own countries and that this makes the group a formidable source of knowledge, skills and expertise and thus a privilege and a challenge to Chair lead.

2.   SECRETARY

This is a key role the main function of which is communication with and between the Chairman and group members.

The features of the role are:-

i)   Close collaboration between Chairman and Secretary facilitated by reasonable geographical proximity and similar time zones.

ii) Acting as an essential conduit between Chairman and members ensuring that both are properly informed.

iii) Promoting two way communication between Chairman and members but particularly encouraging input from members.

iv) Keeping adequate records of meetings and looking

ahead, ensuring that meeting agenda are prepared and
communicated in advance.

v) Initiating communications eg leaflets and ensuring
that new members have adequate information about the
group.

vi) Noting publications and informing Chairman and
membership of same.

3. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

This role could be combined with that of Treasurer. It would not
be necessary for the Deputy Chairman to be geographically near
the Chairman. It is important to balance the geographical
spread. Features of the role include:-

i) Developing awareness of the Chairman's objectives in
order to provide continuity which is particularly
vital in an international structure.

ii) To "learn the ropes" so that he/she can deputise in
the absence of Chairman and ensure succession is
reasonably smooth thus maintaining continuity.

The Treasurer function includes:-

    i)   Knowing what funds are available from IMIA.

   ii)   Having ideas on income generation in order to improve
           the financial state of the group and to help promote
           its general aims.

4.   MEMBERS

The role of members includes:-

    i)   Representing own country's views.

   ii)   Assisting the Working Group to achieve its objectives
           by recognizing, supporting, initiating nursing
           informatics events in own country;

  iii)   active participation in the group,s activities, acting
           as a communications vehicle to and from the group thus
           contributing to the dissemination function of the
           group;

   iv)   demonstrating a willingness to share knowledge
           expertise and developments plus difficulties and
           .needs.

    v)   Help promote a multi-disciplinary collaborative
           approach to informatics in health care and demonstrate

sensitivity to the contributions that other
disciplines make.

vi) Be willing to serve on other groups within IMIA/EFMI
if at all possible.

vii) Be prepared to consider the hosting of a
symposium/workshop in their own country and recognise
the unique opportunity this offers to nursing in the
host country.

Maureen Scholes

Susan E Norman

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Represented Countries:

Australia • Belgium • Canada
Denmark • Finland • France
Great Britain • F.R. of Germany
Hong Kong • Iceland • Ireland • Israel
Italy • Japan • Jugoslavia
The Netherlands • New Zealand
Norway • Sweden
Switzerland • U.S.A.

Contact Address in your Country:

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Nursing Informatics
WG-8

**International
Medical
Informatics
Association**

Nursing Informatics

Working Group-8

*Aims &
Activities*

Introduction

Working Group 8 – Nursing Informatics was formally authorized by the International Medical Informatics Association (I.M.I.A.), General Assembly meeting, Melbourne, in September 1982.

The establishment of WG-8 followed the successful first International Open Forum on "The Impact of Computers on Nursing" held in London, England, September 1982 under chairmanship of Maureen Scholes.

The Working Group is established to act as an international focus for activities in Nursing Informatics, providing international links for those who are working in the field of nursing informatics in accordance with the I.M.I.A. by-laws.

Today representatives of 20 countries are members of WG-8.

Aims and Objectives

The focus of WG-8 is to foster collaboration among nurses who are interested in nursing informatics. The specific objectives are:

● Explore the scope of nursing informatics and its implications for information handling activities associated with nursing care delivery, nursing administration, nursing research and nursing education.

● Support the development of nursing informatics in the member countries of I.M.I.A.

● Provide appropriate informatics meetings, in conjuction with Medinfo Congresses and provide opportunities to share knowledge and research to facilitate communication of developments in the field.

● Encourage the publication and dissemination of research and development materials in the field of nursing informatics.

● Develop recommendations, guidelines and courses related to nursing informatics.

Activities

Congress Participation
● WG-8 organizes various conferences, symposia, working conferences, seminars and workshops.

Most of these activities are in relation to major events of the I.M.I.A.

Publications
● Publishes books, results of working conferences and symposia in official documents.

Links
● Participates in other working Groups of I.M.I.A. that are concerned with topics related to nursing or topics where nursing input is valued.

● Maintains contact with the International Council of Nurses (I.C.N.) and the World Health Organization (W.H.O.).

● Members of WG-8 I.M.I.A. assist and collaborate with one another in the development of nursing informatics by sharing, advice, documents and presentations.