

**NRIG**

Nursing Research Interest Group

Winter 2018 Newsletter

**RNAO**Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario*Speaking out for nursing. Speaking out for health.***Website:** nrig.rnao.ca
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2018

Happy New Year!

• Chair Report •

Warm greetings for 2018! I hope your holidays were filled with family, friends and festivities! The New Year brings new opportunities for nursing research in Ontario. I wish you all the best in your upcoming research endeavours, whether it is completing a current research project, writing a new research grant, applying for a research scholarship, finding a research project to become involved in or simply keeping up-to-date on nursing research literature. No matter your level of involvement, you all play an important role to ensure nursing practice is evidence based.

NRIG Executive Update

For the past year, I have had the privilege and pleasure of chairing the NRIG executive and I will continue in the Chair position for the coming year. I want to sincerely thank outgoing executive members Sue Bookey-Bassett (Past Chair) and Angela Cooper-Brathwaite (RNAO Board Member-at-Large) who have now 'retired' from NRIG. Sue has steadfastly supported NRIG for approximately 10 years in multiple roles and has mentored me and many other executive members during her terms. I wish her all the best with her future endeavors. Angela has also been a long-standing NRIG executive member for approximately 10 years and has served in multiple roles as well. Angela is the current RNAO

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President Elect and I wish her success as she embarks on this new adventure with RNAO. Thank you again to both of you for your solid support and commitment to NRIG!

The NRIG executive continues to have strong representation in all officer positions with the majority of current executive members continuing in their roles for 2018. Winnie Sun will continue as Finance Officer, Fissan Lau will continue as Secretary, Joyce Tsui will continue as Communications Officer (Website), Demelza Domingo will continue as Communications Officer (Newsletter), Sheila Boamah will continue as Policy and Political Action Officer, Christina Moldovan will continue as Membership Officer and Amanveer Deol will continue as Student Representative. I want to thank each of you for your dedication, hard work and ongoing support of NRIG. You make my job so much easier and I am truly grateful to each of you!

I am very pleased to announce that we have four new NRIG executive officers joining our team for 2018! At the NRIG AGM in October, the NRIG by-laws were modified to allow for the creation of one new NRIG Member-at-Large (MAL) position, which means we now have a total of three MAL executive positions. I want to extend a warm welcome to following new NRIG executive members:

1. Amy Wright: Amy is a 2017 NRIG scholarship winner and Neonatal Nurse Practitioner who is completing her PhD in Nursing at McMaster University. She is the current NRIG Chair Elect.
2. Debbie Kane: Debbie is an Associate Professor with the Faculty of Nursing and Associate Dean

with the Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Windsor. She is the current NRIG Member-at-Large - RNAO Board.

3. Gillian Strudwick: Gillian is a 2017 NRIG research grant winner and Project Scientist at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health. She is the current NRIG Member-at-Large and will assist with the NRIG Scholarships and Grants Program.
4. Harshdeep Hehar: Harshdeep is a recent BN graduate, RN with the Toronto General Hospital Resource Team and the Social Media Officer with the Community Health Nurses Interest Group. She is the current NRIG Member-at-Large and will help promote NRIG in social media.

Launch of the new NRIG website

I am very excited to announce that NRIG will have a new website in February 2018! Based on a 2017 NRIG survey, members indicated they wanted to have a more appealing and user friendly website. Through the leadership of Joyce Tsui and the Website Subcommittee the new NRIG website is now ready to be launched!

NRIG Awards, Scholarships and Grants

Begin your applications for the 2018 NRIG Awards, Scholarships and Grants Program! NRIG is offering a total of \$8000 in funding this year.

The deadline for the NRIG Research Award (1 x \$1000), which is administered through the Registered Nurses Foundation of Ontario (RNFOO), is January 22, 2018.

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This award supports a graduate nursing student who is in the process of completing thesis research. Preference will be given to Master's level students. Applicants must be members of NRIG for a minimum of two years and submit a completed research proposal. To submit your application, please access the RNFOO website [here](#).

In February 2018, NRIG will open applications for two Graduate Scholarships valued at \$1500 each and two Research Grants valued at \$2000 each. The deadline to submit an application for a NRIG Scholarship or Research Grant is March 31, 2018. An email will be sent to NRIG members once the application is available online on our new website.

NRIG Membership Fees

NRIG membership fees for 2017-2018 are increasing from \$25.00 to \$30.00 commencing Nov. 2017. This fee increase will support the NRIG Scholarships and Grants Program and is based on direct feedback from members in the member survey. If NRIG membership remains consistent with the October 2017 RN membership count of 556, it is projected that NRIG will have an additional \$5000.00 to put towards the NRIG Scholarships and Grants program starting in 2018-2019. The NRIG executive will evaluate membership numbers in January 2018 to determine if the NRIG budget can support additional funding to the Scholarships and Grants program for 2017-2018. The NRIG executive will continue to collaborate with RNAO home office staff during the 2017-2018 membership year to develop strategies for further recruitment, retention, and engagement with NRIG members.

We want to hear from you!

The NRIG executive likes to hear what our members are doing so please feel free to send us a message if you want to have any of your research endeavours highlighted in our newsletter. I also welcome any comments or feedback you may have to ensure we are meeting your needs as a NRIG member.

Respectively Submitted, Barbara Chyzzy, NRIG Chair





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• Annual General Meeting •

With the season of Fall, NRIG hosted the 2017 NRIG Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM was held at the beautiful Old Mill in Toronto on October 17th from 5:30-9:00pm. It was a successful evening of scholarship and grant awards' presentations and networking and reconnecting opportunities for the AGM's diverse group of (approximately) 30 attendants. As well, NRIG's executive presented the executive report on activities for the 2016-2017 year. Finally, this year's AGM featured a talk from distinguished scientist, Dr. Bonnie Stevens.

Dr. Stevens is a Professor at University of Toronto's Faculties of Nursing, Medicine and Dentistry; the Director of the Center of the Study of Pain; the Associate Chief of Nursing Research; the Pain Centre Co-Director and Senior Scientist in the Research Institute at the Hospital for Sick Children. Dr. Stevens' research focuses on improving paediatric pain management and outcomes through knowledge translation to improve the quality of life of infants and children with acute and chronic illness. We had the honour of having Dr. Stevens provide her lessons learned over her successful research career as she presented her mantras for success in research—gather courage, find confidence, nurture relationships, manage expectations and build on strengths. Her presentation catered to both undergraduate students looking for some direction as they embark on their nursing careers, novice researchers as they welcome the challenges of writing countless and often fruitless grant applications as well as experienced researchers who deal with competing

priorities and the challenge of impacting change through knowledge translation. The presentation was followed by a small group discussion catered to all attendees and were facilitated by seasoned nursing researchers.

NRIG would like to thank Dr. Stevens for sharing her work and passion for nursing research! Thank you to all who attended the 2017 AGM and to those who contributed to a successful AGM.



*Respectfully submitted, Demelza Domingo,
Communications Officer -Newsletter*





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• Scholarships and Awards •

We are pleased to continue to be able to support the ongoing research and scholarship of NRIG members. This year \$8,000 was awarded to nursing students and novice researchers in Ontario: \$1000 Research Award (through the Registered Nurse Foundation of Ontario, RNFOO), two Graduate Scholarships valued at \$1500 each and two Research Grants valued at \$2000 each. We received 9 applications for the NRIG Graduate Scholarships program and 4 applications for the NRIG Research Grant Program.

We are proud to announce the 2017 NRIG Award, Scholarship and Grant recipients:

NRIG Award (awarded by RNFOO), valued at \$1,000:

- **Heather Hartley**, Master of Nursing student, University of Ottawa

Graduate Scholarships, each valued at \$1,500:

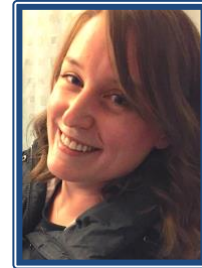
- **Amy Wright**, PhD student, McMaster University
- **Robin Coatsworth-Pospokey**, PhD, University of Alberta

Research Grant, each valued at \$2,000:

- **Dr. Gillian Strudwick**, Project Scientist, Information Management Group, Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
- **Dr. Charlotte Lee**, Assistant Professor, Ryerson University

Respectfully submitted, Sue Bookey-Bassett, Past-Chair

• Recipient Spotlight •



HEATHER HARTLEY, the *NRIG Research Award recipient*, completed her undergraduate nursing degree at McMaster University. In her clinical practice at Hamilton General Hospital, she was exposed to the destabilizing effects that unexpected patient deaths had on members of the interprofessional team. In response, she initiated a research project, developing a technical report designed to guide staff in situations of death and organ recovery. This research led her to pursue a Master of Science in Nursing at the University of Ottawa where she explored interdisciplinary narratives of caring for patients that died intraoperatively. Her work brings attention to this unexplored practice phenomenon and the experiences of clinicians living the death of their patients in perioperative culture. Heather now works with the surgical departments at Quinte Health Care as a Professional Practice Specialist, developing initiatives to support staff in enhancing and enriching their practice.

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ROBIN COATSWORTH-PUSPOKY, a *Graduate Scholarship recipient*, is a PhD student in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta, a CNF Scholar, and teaches in the first year of the BScN program at Lambton College in Sarnia. Robin's research interests include transitional care, family caregivers and older people with mental health challenges, knowledge translation, and nurse-client and peer support relationships. Robin's PhD research project will focus on exploring the influence of the discharge plan on the readmission from home to the acute care settings from the experiences of older people with cognitive challenges and their families.



AMY WRIGHT, a *Graduate Scholarship recipient*, is a Nurse Practitioner with a passion for health equity and social justice. Challenged by the health inequities experienced by Indigenous infants and their families in urban areas, she has focused her career to advocating for the unique needs of this population. Currently completing a PhD, her research seeks to understand how Indigenous mothers living in urban areas in Canada experience using health services to meet the health needs of their infants. She hopes the study will provide health services with meaningful and effective strategies to provide culturally appropriate care for Indigenous families, which may lead to better health outcomes.

DR. CHARLOTTE LEE, a *Research Grant recipient*, is an assistant professor at the Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, Ryerson University. Dr. Lee's research focuses on health services evaluation and interprofessional teams. She is particularly interested in understanding how interpersonal relationships affect teamwork processes and outcomes in health care. Dr. Lee's current work aims to identify the antecedents and teamwork outcomes associated with interpersonal relationships. As a certified oncology nurse, she is also involved in the study of health services issues associated with cancer care.



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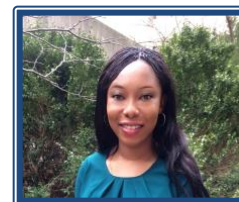
DR. GILLIAN STRUDWICK, a *Research Grant recipient*, is a Project Scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. She is also an Assistant Professor (status only) at the Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto where she teaches in the Master of Health Informatics program. Gillian is conducting a qualitative descriptive study to understand the role of the nurse manager in nurses' use of electronic health records (EHRs), and to identify strategies that may be effective in supporting adoption of EHRs.

resources are scarce, it is critical for NRIG to raise awareness of the important and political issues that nurse researchers are tackling on behalf of the citizens of this Province and beyond. To this end, I attended the 17th Annual Queens Park Day and met with local MPPs to discuss our agenda. Overall, the experience at Queens Park was remarkable and it was wonderful to be there to support nursing practice and scholarship. With regards to our quest for funding, the issue was not directly addressed. However, we are pleased to announce that this year NRIG awarded several scholarships and grants to both experienced and novice researchers. In the upcoming year, we hope to engage in political action and find other means to allocate additional resources for nurse researchers across the province. In doing so, we will collaborate with stakeholders to identify, create and disseminate policies relevant to the NRIG.

Respectfully Submitted by Sheila Boamah, NRIG Policy & Political Action Officer

• Policy and Political Action •

I joined the Executive Board at NRIG last year in the capacity as the Policy and Political Action Officer. In the initial months, I worked closely with the Executives to outline the roles and responsibilities of the Policy and Political Action Officer since the role was vacant for some time prior to my appointment. One of my goals as the Policy and Political Action Officer was to seek opportunities for alternative funding sources for novice and experienced researchers. Understanding that





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• Membership Report •

In the 2016-2017 fiscal year, NRIG had a total of 2,683 members. Of these members, 556 were Registered Nurses while 2,127 were nursing students. The wide distribution of our NRIG Newsletters helped to keep our members engaged and informed about nursing research funding opportunities, including the available published document in collaboration with RNAO Research Committee entitled: “the Environmental Scan on Potential Sources of Funding and Support for Novice and other Nursing Researchers”. Supporting the ongoing scholarship and research involvement of our members has been identified as a key recruitment strategy through our Membership Survey, and we have successfully awarded 5 scholarships and research grants to our NRIG members. As we look towards the new fiscal year, we are excited about our updated website to be released to members.

Respectfully submitted, Christina Moldovan, Membership and Services Officer



• Website Report •

In 2016-2017, NRIG embarked on the strategic plan of website development by moving toward with the development of a new and user friendly website for our current members. A Website Subcommittee was formed in the beginning of 2017 to explore and identify the needs and features of the new website. Several hosting companies were explored for the development of the new NRIG website and Go Daddy was selected to design and host the new NRIG website. Currently, development of the new NRIG website and the new NRIG website completion date is targeted for the beginning of 2018.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Tsui, NRIG Communications Officer, Website





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• Student Corner •

October 5th, 2017, NRIG hosted its first student event in collaboration with the Humber Nursing Society (HNS), which took place at Humber College and had over 50 nursing students attend. Students met with various nursing faculty members to network and ask questions about research while faculty were happy to share their research with future nurses. From the feedback, students felt encouraged to pursue a career in nursing research. Students also participated in raffles and games while they enjoyed food! Thank you to those who attended and to those who volunteered for this event.

In the coming year, I have exciting goals that I want to reach. I want to encourage more students to join NRIG and get more student nurses to understand the importance of research in the nursing profession; after all nursing practice is evidenced-based! In addition to HNS, I want to collaborate with Nursing Students of Ontario for the next event. Hopefully, these events will help NRIG members gain more interest in nursing research and help members realize how much they can get out of their RNAO memberships.

Respectfully Submitted, Amnveer Deol, Student Representative



• Newsletter Report •

It has been my pleasure to have joined NRIG's executive this past year as the Newsletter Communications Officer. For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, NRIG has distributed three newsletters to NRIG members; the first in fall 2016, the second in winter 2017 and the most recent one in summer 2017. The newsletters highlighted NRIG updates, scholarship and grant opportunities, award recipients and important events. They have been archived and are available on the NRIG website for your reference. As always, if you have any comments and suggestions for the NRIG newsletter, please feel free to contact me.

*Respectfully submitted, Demelza Domingo, NRIG
Communications Officer, Newsletter*





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• Upcoming Grants Opportunities •



Ontario Women's Health Scholars Awards Program

For research on women's health issues. In 2018-2019, up to three awards will be made at each of the Master's and Doctoral levels, and two awards at the Postdoctoral level. Funding includes Master's Awards at \$25, 000, Doctoral Awards at \$35,000 and Post-Doctoral Awards at \$50, 000. **Deadline for applications is January 31st, 2018.** For more information, please see [here](#).



International Association for the Study of Pain

The IASP Early Career Research Grant facilitates the development of young researchers just starting their careers as independent investigators. They offer multiple grants at US\$20,000 in the Early Career Research Grants Program for IASP members. **Deadline to apply is February 7th, 2018.** For more information, please see [here](#).



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing®

Please click on [here](#) to access the following upcoming Grant opportunities:

February 8th, 2017 Grant Application Deadline:

- [National League for Nursing Grant](#)

March 15th, 2018 Grant Application Deadline:

- [Emergency Nurses Association Foundation Grant](#)

April 1st, 2018 Grant Application Deadline:

- [Association of Nurses in AIDS Care Grant](#)
- [Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses Grant](#)
- [Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation End-of-Life Nursing Care Research Grant](#)
- [Midwest Nursing Research Grant Association](#)
- [Southern Nursing Research Society Research Grant](#)

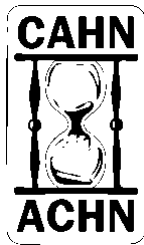


Banting Research Foundation

The BRF Discovery Award is a one-year grant of up to \$25,000 for innovative health and biomedical research projects by outstanding new investigators at universities and research institutes in Canada who are within the first three years of their first academic appointment. **Deadline to apply is March 15th, 2018.** Please click [here](#).

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Canadian Association for the History of Nursing (CAHN)

CAHN offers two major financial awards each year: the Margaret M. Allemang Scholarship for graduate students (Masters or PhD level) studying in the field of nursing history, and the Vera Roberts Endowment for historians of nursing (academic or independent) who are working on Canadian nursing history focused on regions north of the 60th parallel. For more information, please see [here](#). Applications are due February 22nd, 2018.



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

SSHCR offers Partnership Engage Grants valued at between \$7,000-\$25,000. These grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. Applications are due March 15th, 2018. Please see [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE!



Canadian
Doctoral Nursing
Network Conference

The Faculty of Nursing is pleased to announce the launch of the [website](#) for the 2018 Canadian Doctoral Nursing Network Conference. The theme is Doctoral Success through Leadership. Details are as follows:

Dates and Location:

June 11th, 12th & 13th, 2017 at

University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

2018 Keynote Speakers:

Barb Shellian, RN, BN, MN— CNA President

Dr. Marlene Smadu, RN, EdD, LLD— Former VP of ICN, Past President CNA and;

Dr. Sonja McIlpatrick, MSc, PhD, RN—President, International Network of Doctoral Education in Nursing and Head of School of Nursing, Ulster University

Goals:

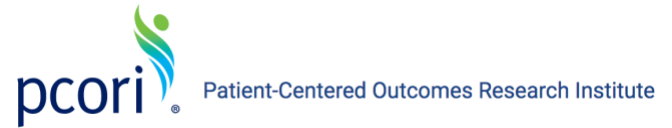
To bring together students engaged in doctoral research, for networking, scholarly discussions and learning opportunities. To provide doctoral students the opportunity to submit an abstract and present. To provide support, encouragement and mentoring of doctoral students.

Registration opens in January 2018. For more information click [here](#).



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The Canadian Nurses Foundation

The Canadian Nurses Foundation offers more than 50 scholarships in support of nursing scholarship. They are available for the following categories and amounts:

- Baccalaureate: \$3,000
- Masters and Nurse Practitioner: \$1,000 to \$5,000
- Doctoral: \$1,800 to \$10,000
- TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund at all levels: \$1,500 to \$5,000 (TBC)
- Diversity in Nursing Awards for internationally educated nurses

Please click [here](#) to view the list of available awards, criteria and eligibility. **Deadline: February 22nd, 2018.**



The Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario

Each year the Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario (NLN.ON) awards up to \$9500.00 in research scholarships and nursing undergraduate and graduate education bursaries. We encourage all nurse leaders involved in research, or contemplating education to consider applying. (NLN.ON Education Awards are only available for members). For more information please click [here](#). **Applications are due February 1st 2018.**

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

PCORI has two open opportunities: The Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards (up to US\$250,000) a research support, not a research funding opportunity, is now accepting applications for projects up to two years in duration and the Engagement Award (up to \$50,000 annually) for Research Meeting and Conference Support. **Applications are due February 1st 2018.** For more information, please click [here](#).



Canadian Institute of Health Research

The CIHR Spring Project Grant is designed to capture ideas with the greatest potential for important advances in fundamental or applied health-related knowledge, the health care system, and/or health outcomes, by supporting projects with a specific purpose and a defined endpoint.

Deadline to apply is February 6th, 2018. For more information, please click [here](#).



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• 2017-2018 NRIG Executive Members •

Chairperson

Barbara Chyzzy barbara.chyzzy@utoronto.ca

Past Chairperson and NRIG Representative to CANR

Barbara Chyzzy

NRIG Chair Elect

Amy Wright wrighal@mcmaster.ca

Finance Officer

Winnie Sun winnie.sun@uoit.ca

Secretary

Fissan Lau fissan@gmail.com

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Membership and Services Officer

Christina Moldovan cdraganao@ryerson.ca

Policy & Political Action Officer

Sheila Boamah sboamah@uwo.ca

Members-at-Large- RNAO Board

Debbie Kane dkane@uwindsor.ca

Members-at-Large-NRIG Board

Harsdeep Hehar hh.hehar@gmail.com

Members-at-Large-NRIG Board

Gillian Strudwick gillian.strudwick@camh.ca

Student Representative

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