



Editorial

**Celebrating
50 years**

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With only two years until the 13th Quadrennial Congress it is time for all of us to consider the great work that we are doing and start thinking about potential abstract submissions. Two years might seem a long way away, but it will come around quickly. I have recently had the absolute privilege to represent my workplace, Australia and the neuroscience nursing community at the European Stroke Organisation Conference in Milan. I was one of over 5600 participants enjoying a packed program, including the 1348 electronic posters. I wore my ANNA and WFNN badges and it was incredible to meet up with other nurses from around the world who recognised the WFNN badge.

Some of the nursing highlights to mention were the presentation topics including: long-term trends in care needs of stroke survivors, caregiver stress post stroke in a developing country, aphasia treatment sessions, pneumonia risk reduction through screening, community-based rehabilitation, preparedness assessments for caregivers, improving psychological well being post stroke and computer game-based therapy. The presentations and posters were exceptionally creative in their solutions to real problems within workplaces across so many different settings and countries that were all facing their own challenges be it economic, geographical, or socioeconomic. The presentations offered real solutions to problems and took holistic, interdisciplinary and often long-term approaches to improving outcomes for individuals and caregivers post a stroke event.

It was incredible and inspiring to see so many nurse led projects and they certainly have me thinking about the upcoming ANNA Annual Conference that will be held on 17-18th October 2019 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Wellington, New Zealand.

Linda

Linda Nichols
Editor

In 1969 the World Federation of Neuroscience Nursing (WFNN) was conceptualised by Agnes Marshall with the goal of connecting the neuroscience nursing community through the goals of education, support and development of associations. Over the last 50 years the WFNN has continued to grow, not only in numbers but also across speciality fields and most importantly across countries and regions.

Agnes legacy also includes being a cofounder of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses (AANN) and subsequently elected President of AANN in 1969. She participated in the development of a certification program for neuroscience nurses, as well as being a founding member of the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN), where she also served as President.

As we celebrate these 50 years we also celebrate the success of the Quadrennial Congresses from 1973 to the upcoming congress in 2021. Throughout this time neuroscience nurses have been networking, collaborating and sharing skills, expertise, research and friendship.

The last Congress held in Australia was in 2001 (Sydney) and 20 years later Australia will host the 13th Quadrennial Congress in Darwin from 20th-23rd of July 2021. This is an exciting time for us to all consider how we can create, imagine, inspire and discover.

