

## Special Points of Interest

- \* CM Meeting 2014
- \* 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress 2015
- \* New EfCCNa Board
- \* Apply for Research Grants

## The re-launch of the EfCCNa web site



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***EfCCNa is happy to announce the re-launch of the website.***

***Discover the new website in a fresh and updated layout and structure - visit***

***[www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)***

***and enjoy!***



## Elections at the EfCCNa Spring Meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, May 2014

We are sad to report that Rosa Thorsteinsdottir has completed her second term of office as President and has stepped down from the EfCCNa Board. We thank Rosa most sincerely for her 17 years' service in developing and promoting EfCCNa and critical care nursing across Europe. We appreciate the leadership, support and guidance she has shown to the federation and we are pleased that she will continue supporting the Congress Organisation Committee for Valencia 2015.



At the recent elections,

Dr Bronagh Blackwood (Northern Ireland) was elected as President; Drago Satosek (Slovenia) was elected as Treasurer; and Eva Barkestad (Sweden) was re-elected as Board Member.

Anne Kokko (Finland) stepped down from her second term of office as Treasurer, and has been co-opted as Vice President until this position is filled at the 2015 Spring elections.

We thank Anne for her diligence and attention to detail as Treasurer and we are glad that she will support the new Treasurer during the transition period.



## The new EfCCNa Board 2014



**Bronagh Blackwood**  
(Northern Ireland)  
President



**Anne Kokko**  
(Finland)  
Vice-President



**David Waters**  
(United Kingdom)  
Secretary



**Drago Satosek**  
(Slovenia)  
Treasurer



**Eva Barkestad**  
(Sweden)  
Board member

## Dr Bronagh Blackwood — the new EfCCNa President

*During the Reykjavik meeting in May 2014 board elections took place. Dr Bronagh Blackwood was elected as the President of the federation. We take the opportunity to introduce her to the EfCCNa members within this newsletter.*



### Where does Bronagh Blackwood come from?

She comes from Belfast in Northern Ireland. She worked in Belfast (in the Operating Theatres) throughout some of the worst years of the Northern Irish 'Troubles' and has known many tragedies brought on by conflict. As a young nurse, BB developed not only a keen tolerance to the views and experiences of a diverse social and political population, but also a desire to 'get away' and work abroad.



BB moved to Germany where she worked for two years, learning the language and peculiarities of a different culture. Coming back to Belfast, BB undertook a critical care course and was soon promoted to ward sister in a cardiology and coronary care unit. She had a passion for teaching and moved on to undertake a degree, a teaching qualification, and masters course and ended up teaching nurses at degree level in Queen's University Belfast.

BB completed her PhD in 2005 – An evaluation of protocolised weaning from mechanical ventilation in the UK. Having worked for 17 years in the school of Nursing & Midwifery, she moved to a research centre in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at Queen's University Belfast.

Dr Blackwood is a regular international conference speaker on mechanical ventilation and interventions that impact its duration in the critically ill, and has nearly 60 publications. She is an Editor for the Cochrane Anaesthesia Review Group and has authored a number of systematic reviews evaluating the evidence for protocolised weaning, automated systems and contextual factors that impact on the duration of mechanical ventilation in adults and children. She is currently involved in a multi-centre trial of non-invasive ventilation as a weaning strategy in UK ICUs.



### What about her Visions?

Dr Blackwood passionately believes in the unique contribution that nurses bring to patient care and evidence based care. She holds the position of President of the European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations and is an Advisor on critical care to the German Nursing Federation (DGF - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Fachkrankenpflege und Funktionsdienste).

Her visions for EfCCNa are:

- \* To broaden the understanding of European critical care nurses – to enable CCNs to see that culture & practice is not 'standard' – that although the basic concepts of 'care' are the same worldwide, that circumstances, resources & health care systems restrict the care we can provide.
- \* To foster a deeper sense of sharing in education and evidence based practice to improve the skills of nurses to deliver a high standard of care for patients.
- \* To encourage collaboration and networking as a way of strengthening the force of practitioners to make a positive change together.



## The EfCCNa Council Meeting Reykjavik

For the Spring meeting 2014 the EfCCNa council members met in a very unique part of Europe; they came together in Reykjavik, Iceland on 10-11 May due to the invitation of the Icelandic Nurse's Association and their EfCCNa representatives Rosa Thorsteinsdottir and Gudrun Jonsdottir. During the meeting the next EfCCNa Congress was discussed. The congress will be held on 29-31 January 2015 in Valencia, Spain. The congress motto is defined with: *Expanding Horizons of Critical Care Nursing in Europe*. Abstract submission opened on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, accessible via the new congress website.

For the last time the financial overview was given by Anne Kokko. Her second term as treasurer of EfCCNa ends in 2014. EfCCNa finances are stable on a low level. The membership fee will be subject to change in 2015. Important to know is that member societies who failed to pay their yearly fee in a certain time might stay as members but will lose their voting rights.

The EfCCNa awards are aimed to foster European nursing research that focus on critical care. The 2014 research awards will be given to a group from Spain that focuses on the variability of care delivered during NIV and to a group from the Netherlands that work on sleep disturbances in ICU.



The pilot study about the role of critical care nurses in end-of-life care in Europe is in progress. The paper will be presented at the Valencia congress in January 2015.

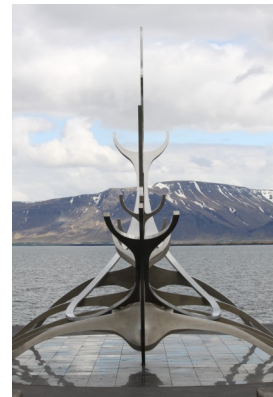
During the meeting board elections took place. Dr Bronagh Blackwood (Northern Ireland) was elected as President; Drago Satosek (Slovenia) was elected as Treasurer and Eva Barkestad (Sweden) was re-elected as Board Member.

Anne Kokko (Finland) stepped down from her second term of office as Treasurer, and has been co-opted as Vice President until this position is filled at the 2015 Spring elections.

The new EfCCNa website with a fresh and up-to-date design was expected to be launched on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Almost all Council members took the opportunity and stayed some additional time in order to discover a little bit of the beautiful and unique sights of Iceland. Some went for the Golden Circle Tour to see the famous Gullfoss waterfall, the Geysirs and the magic place of Thingvellir, Iceland's greatest historical site and jewel of nature. Others enjoyed whale watching. On Sunday the meeting was finished with an unforgettable visit at the blue lagoon.

A big 'thank you' to Gudrun and Rosa to make this council meeting as a very memorable event for all participants.



## 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress 2015

We have great pleasure of inviting you to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress, to be held in the superb Valencia Conference Centre from 29-31 January 2015.

The meeting will be organised with the support of the Spanish Sociedad Española de Enfermería Intensiva y Unidades Coronarias (SEEIUC).

For the 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress we have chosen the theme **Expanding horizons of critical care nursing in Europe**, as we believe that the best patient outcomes result from the efforts of expanding critical care education and evidence based practice throughout Europe. Better patient care involves a combined approach that includes pre-hospital care, emergency and intensive care, and post hospital care for ICU survivors.

European critical care practice exemplifies this approach and recognises the vital role of engaged industry partners as team players in assisting our practice.

The scientific programme will showcase the best current critical care research, practice and educational approaches. For this Congress, we have added a few new presentation formats (symposia and master classes) to provide valuable opportunities to network and engage with topic experts, and also provide new opportunities for industry partners.

This Congress welcomes two keynote speakers who are well-known international experts in their field. Kay Mitchell is a member of the Xtreme Everest expeditions that explore the effects of hypoxia to develop treatments to improve outcomes in critically ill patients. Dr Louise Rose's expertise focuses on the ventilated patient in diverse settings including the intensive care unit, emergency department, specialized weaning centre, long-term care, and the community.

Besides a promising and stimulating scientific programme, the city of Valencia is well worth a visit! Spain's third largest city is without a doubt a place full of contrasts where the remains of a distant past harmoniously coexist with avant-garde buildings and long sandy beaches. On this page you will read all about it. We have also selected some interesting excursions on Saturday afternoon which will make it worthwhile to stay a little bit longer in this wonderful city.

For more information, please visit the Congress website at [www.EfCCNa.org](http://www.EfCCNa.org)



*Expanding Horizons of Critical Care Nursing in Europe*

**Valencia, Spain | 29 - 31 January 2015**

***Don't miss Europe's largest critical care nursing conference!***

## 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress 2015 - Programme Highlights

### Keynote speakers

#### **Kay Mitchell**

Senior Research Manager, Critical Care NIHR, NBRU,  
University Southampton;

Member of the Xtreme Everest expeditions that explore the effects of hypoxia to develop treatments to improve outcomes in critically ill patients



#### **Louise Rose**

RN, BN, ICU Cert, MN, PhD, Associate Professor

Dr. Louise Rose researches the care and management of ventilated patient across the continuum of care including the intensive care unit, emergency department, step down facilities, long term care facilities and home. Her research is informing public policy and health care funding.



### **Symposia focusing on innovations in critical care**

- \* Management of Pain, Agitation, and Delirium
- \* Patient safety and decision support
- \* End of Life care
- \* Care and management of ICU survivors



### **Interactive clinical workshops**

- \* Ventilation management
- \* Non-invasive ventilation
- \* ECG and arrhythmias
- \* Blood gas interpretation



### **Master Classes delivered by clinical and research experts**

- \* Complexities of the multi-trauma patient
- \* Physiological and developmental differences between adult and children in ICU
- \* Understanding systematic reviews
- \* Writing clinical research protocols



**and plenary lectures, case-based learning sessions, Meet the experts round tables, research analysis, poster presentations**

### **Call for Abstracts**

The 6<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress invites submissions from those interested in intensive care presenting oral papers or posters.

**Deadline  
for submission:  
8 September  
2014**

**FOR ALL  
INFORMATION &  
REGISTRATION:  
[www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)**

## EfCCNa Research Grants

### *Aim*

The research grants of the EfCCNa are aimed primarily at encouraging European research that focuses on critically ill patients, their relatives, or the staff and services that provide for them. The grants are open to members of National Associations that are members of the EfCCNa.

### *Funding*

The federation has only modest funds available each year and therefore limits the maximum for individual grants to 4.000 €. Priority will be given to those applications that fall within the top 10 European research priorities for critical care nursing.

Part funding proposals (in conjunction with other grant sources) will be considered but must be accompanied by

- \* a clear indication of how EfCCNa funds will be allocated and contribute to the overall project
- \* when the decisions on the non-EfCCNa portion of the funding would be available
- \* and how the project would proceed if only EfCCNa funds were available

The EfCCNa will consider grant applications for projects where applications have been made to other funding bodies. Applicants who have submitted the same or a similar project to other funding bodies, or plan to do so within six months of the closing date should indicate when these funding bodies will reach a decision.

### *Application*

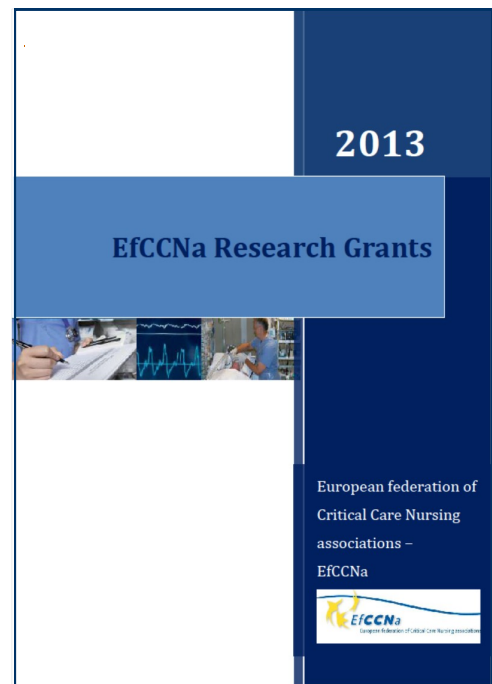
Applications should be made to the EfCCNa Board of Officers using the standard application form available from the EfCCNa website. One Application to be sent electronically to:

[b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk](mailto:b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk).

The closing date for consideration of research grants for **2014 is 1<sup>st</sup> September.**

Successful grant holders will be informed mid-January 2015.

For any queries please contact [b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk](mailto:b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk).



***Information Brochure  
Research Grants***

***Click here  
for the EfCCNa  
Research Grant  
Application Form***





## Item 2.1 Delphi - Expression of Interest

We are looking for nurses and nurse educators with experience, either clinical, teaching or both, in the care of the critically ill in developing healthcare systems. Interested nurses will participate in a three round web-based Delphi study designed to generate recommendations for core curriculum content and learning objectives for a two day face-to-face workshop and associated manual.

This workshop titled Basic Assessment and Support of Seriously Ill Patients in Developing Healthcare Systems for Nurses will be aimed at all nurses practising in acute care settings providing care to the critically ill including Level 1 intensive care units (no advanced hemodynamic monitoring and limited ventilatory support), emergency departments, high dependency units, operating rooms and post-anaesthesia recovery units.

This course is being developed by Médecins Sans Frontiers with the support of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). CUHK have a long history of the development and conduct of such courses delivered until recently mostly to physicians in both developed and developing healthcare systems.

If you have experience working in critical care and in a developing health-care system and would like to find out more/be involved in this exciting opportunity, please contact Dr. Louise Rose at [louise.rose@utoronto.ca](mailto:louise.rose@utoronto.ca)



## Congress Calendar 2014



**BACCN 2014** - Developing a leading edge in Critical Care  
Cardiff, United Kingdom 8 – 9 September 2014

[more ...](#)



**ESICM Lives 2014** -

27<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine  
Barcelona, Spain, 27 September - 1 October 2014

[more ...](#)



5<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Academy of Paediatrics & 25<sup>th</sup> ESPNIC  
**Annual Congress** Barcelona, Spain, 17 - 21 October 2014

[more ...](#)

### Impressum:

The Efccna Newsletter  
Edited by I. Harth  
P.O. Box 15615  
1001 NC Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Email: [info@efccna.org](mailto:info@efccna.org)  
web site: [www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)

