

October 2011

As you may know, the 10-year term of the CHSRF/CIHR Chair in Advanced Practice Nursing (APN), one of 12 health services research chairs awarded in 2001, ended on June 30, 2011. Although we are closing our door as the APN Chair Program, we are moving forward as the McMaster APN Research Program. This transition will take place over the next few months.

In the past 10 years, the Chair program worked closely with policy makers at the local, regional, provincial, national and international levels to address three key objectives: *Education and Mentoring, Research, and Linkage and Exchange*.

Accomplishments include:

#### **EDUCATION AND MENTORING**

- Mentorship of 24 graduate students: 6 MSc, 16 PhD and 2 Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) from British Columbia (5), Quebec (1), Nova Scotia (1), New Brunswick (1), and Ontario (16) and from the following universities: Victoria, University of British Columbia, McGill, Dalhousie, McMaster, Ottawa, Toronto, University of Western Ontario, and Case Western.
- Development of a distance graduate course: *Research Issues in the Introduction and Evaluation of Advanced Practice Nursing Roles* (NUR 706) completed by 87 APNs across Canada.
- Provision of funding and mentorship for 3 junior faculty positions and mentorship for 4 postdoctoral fellowships, 1 senior scientist, and 1 career scientist.
- Development of an e-mentorship program led by Dr. Denise Bryant-Lukosius for oncology APNs.

#### **RESEARCH**

- Funding of over \$3.5 million for various Chair projects
- Development of resources to facilitate APN research including:
  - a framework to guide APN role development, implementation and evaluation (PEPPA Framework).
  - an APN Data Collection Toolkit, an open access compendium of common instruments used in APN research, to help APN researchers, students and decision-makers quickly access APN-specific data collection tools.

- an APN Literature Database, an open access collection of published papers and grey literature related to the development, implementation and evaluation of APN roles.
- Partnerships with policy makers to conduct policy informing research about APN integration in settings such as oncology, cardiology, First Nations & Inuit communities, long-term care, emergency departments, public health, and primary health care.
- Creation, with funding from Amgen, of the Oncology APN Centre of Excellence (OAPN) at the Juravinski Cancer Centre (Director: Dr. Denise Bryant-Lukosius).
- Completion of a decision support synthesis on Clinical Nurse Specialists and Nurse Practitioners in Canada that consolidates what is known about APNs in Canada and which has resulted in:
  - an updated CHSRF Mythbuster on Nurse Practitioners
  - a CHSRF webinar about APNs
  - provision of Canadian input into an OECD report on Nurses in Advanced Roles
  - a 10-paper special issue of the Canadian Journal of Nursing Leadership
  - a 2-day McMaster Health Forum that brought together leaders across Canada to share their views and experiences about APN integration in the country.

#### ***LINKAGE AND EXCHANGE***

- Development and dissemination of 12 policy briefs.
- Development of the APN Chair website, newsletter, and blog as knowledge translation tools.
- Development of the Canadian Nurses Association Nurse Practitioner Integration Toolkit used extensively across Canada.
- Creation of a virtual classroom with funding from Ontario government to enable distance education and dissemination of APN research findings to policy makers and nursing leaders.

Many of you have been actively involved in the Chair program over the years as members and chairs of the Chair Advisory Board, decision-maker partners, learners, and research collaborators. Please accept my thanks for your important contributions and involvement in the Chair Program.

Sincerely,



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