



International Medical Informatics Association: Nursing Informatics Special Interest Group

WEB PAGE: <https://imiamedinfo.org/wp/sig-ni-nursing-informatics/>

AUGUST 2021

Inside

1. Executive Committee
1. Profiling an Honorary Member– Ulla Gerdin
1. What is IMIA-NI
2. Message from the Vice-Chair Administration
2. Celebrating Informatics in Australia
2. NI2021 – special offer – register now

Executive Committee (2021-2024)

Chair Ann-Kristin Rotegaard

Vice-Chair (Membership) Joy Lee

Vice-Chair (Admin & Finance) Margie Kennedy

Vice-Chair (Communication) Michelle Honey

Vice-Chair (Working Groups) Nick Hardiker

Diane Skiba Profiling an Honorary Member: Ulla Gerdin

Ulla Gerdin R.N. from Sweden became involved in the development of computers in nursing at the Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm in 1969. A year later she received a grant from the Swedish Nurses Association to study nurses use of computers in the USA. Then in 1978 she was a member of the Swedish delegation when the Nurses Associations of the five Nordic countries met to share experiences from the development and use of computer systems in nursing. At Medinfo in Tokyo (1980) Ulla presented, A Trade Union EDP Policy taken by the Swedish Association of Health Professionals. Ulla's focus areas were: A good working environment, patient data safety and a common and agreed terminology. Before her retirement she worked to build up an organization for national terminology work and the publication and translation of Snomed CT into Swedish.



Evelyn Hovenga and Ulla Gerdin

In 1987 Ulla, together with Stockholm County Council and the Swedish Association of Health Professionals, hosted a special taskforce on education and competencies. The taskforce's work was published: Peterson, H. & Gerdin-Jelger, U. (1988). Preparing nurses for using information systems: Recommended Informatics Competencies, which was published by the National League for Nursing, which was a very influential work during the late 1980s.

Ulla was invited to the nursing informatics conference and post conference in the United Kingdom in 1982 and participated in the establishment of IMIA NI, first the working group and later the special interest group of IMIA. Ulla served as the fourth Chair of the IMIA NI SIG from 1994 to 1997 and before that as secretary. She was on the Scientific Program Committees for the NI Congresses in 1985 and 1994; and served as Vice Chair of the local organizing committee and one of the editors for the proceedings for the Sixth International Congress in 1997. Ulla's last assignment with IMIA and IMIA NI was as member of IMIA Executive Board and Treasurer, 1998 – 2001.

WHAT IS IMIA-NI?

IMIA-NI is the world body for health and biomedical informatics. The focus of IMIA-NI is to foster collaboration among nurses and others who are interested in Nursing Informatics to facilitate development in the field. We aim to share knowledge, experience and ideas with nurses and healthcare providers worldwide about the practice of Nursing Informatics and the benefits of enhanced information management.



IMIA Nursing Informatics
Special Interest Group,
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6716836/>

Message from the Vice-Chair Administration and Finance - Margie Kennedy

Greetings from Canada

I am absolutely delighted to be supporting the IMIA-NI Board in the role of Vice Chair, Administration and Finance. This role is focused on the smooth operation of the Board, recording minutes and decisions and liaising with IMIA on our financial health. Of course, finances are only one dimension of our health. Active engagement with working group members, active communications, and membership services are also key indicators of a healthy professional organization. This role works closely with the other Vice Chairs to ensure that IMIA-NI is an engaged, spirited and healthy society that is serving members' needs and achieving approved priorities.

One way our financial position improves is when we have successful conferences. IMIA-NI has a history of successful conferences, so our financial health is good. This has become much more of a challenge in the pandemic world but with ingenuity and a strong technology component, virtual conferences have become an effective resolution to the physical distancing necessitated by the pandemic. This year NI2021 is hosted by Australia and is scheduled for 23 August – 2 September. The theme of the conference is Nurses and Midwives in the Digital Age. **You can register by accessing the following link: <https://ni2021.org>**

If you have any questions about the Admin and Finances portfolio – please send an email (Ann.Kristin.Rotegard@cappelendamm.no with the subject: attention Margie Kennedy).

Celebrating Nursing & Midwifery Informatics in Australia

By Helen Almond RN, RSCN, MSc, NP (UK), PhD, FAIDH, MACN

Amid a global emergency and an overwhelmed healthcare system, by way of their contribution, nursing and midwifery and digital health and informatics indisputably rise to the challenge. Nurses and midwives have always put the healthcare user at the centre of healthcare delivery. However, when the world first went into 'lockdown', nurses and midwives (along with their healthcare professional colleagues) recognised they were under-prepared in the everyday use, usefulness, and usability of digital health and technologies. Once again, their professional bodies rose to the challenge.

Australian nursing and midwifery professions (in collaboration with the UK) contributed through months of consultation to the launch of the first National Nursing and Midwifery Digital Health Capability Framework (NNMDHCF)¹ in October 2020. While the NNMDHCF tool is a fantastic achievement, gaining worldwide recognition, its true worth will only be realised if its use, usefulness, and usability are adopted by all current and future nurses and midwives, their organisations, and educational institutions. In 2021, once again the nursing and midwifery professional bodies rose to the challenge moving into NNMDHCF Phase 2 the development, and implementation plan and resources, to be launched later in 2021.

The NNMDHCF and tools deliver easy-to-understand terms for the core behaviours and attributes that

contribute to individual and collective success. In the same way that a drawing helps builders translate the architect's vision into functional space for living or working, the NNMDHCF enables nurses and midwives to identify and develop their digital capability. Thus, meeting the demands of the rapidly changing healthcare environment and successfully advancing their contemporary nursing and midwifery careers in leadership, advocacy, education, and research.

As the largest Australian healthcare workforce, nursing and midwifery lead as a responsive digital healthcare workforce². The NNMDHCF celebrates every nurse and midwife and their important role in digital professionalism, leadership and advocacy, data and information quality, information enabled care, and the appropriate use of technology.

In summary, the confrontational events of floods, bush fires and pandemics that ruthlessly impact Australia have also provided substantial opportunity to reimagine healthcare. Regarded as confident, selfless, generous leaders and collaborators, nurses and midwives are ideally positioned to pay forward. At individual, organisational, educational, research and global levels, they capitalise by demonstrating their resilience and abilities toward embedding digital capability into 'business as usual'.

1 Australian Digital Health Agency, 2020. National Nursing and Midwifery Digital Health Capability Framework. <https://www.nursing-midwifery.digitalhealth.gov.au>

2 Woods L, Cummings E, Dobroff N, Nowlan S, Almond H, Proctor P, Ryan A, Makeham M, Griffin K, & Schaper L. (2020). Intended use of the National Nursing and Midwifery Digital Health Capability Framework. *Studies in Health Technology and Informatics*, 276, 106–112, doi: 10.3233/

NI2021 23 August – 2 September – Book your place NOW!

- [Nursing Informatics International Congress](#) – all can join in virtually.
- With so many fantastic speakers, a carefully curated program and full content available for 6 months don't miss out! This event celebrates nurses and midwives as frontline users of digital solutions.
- Special early bird rates available for 1 week only (11-17 August).
- **IMIA-NI 2021 General Assembly** will be held during NI2021. Two dates and times so please note which suits you best: August 31st at 4:00 AEST OR Sept 1st at 14:30 AEST