



EAHN

EUROPEAN
ASSOCIATION
FOR THE HISTORY
OF NURSING

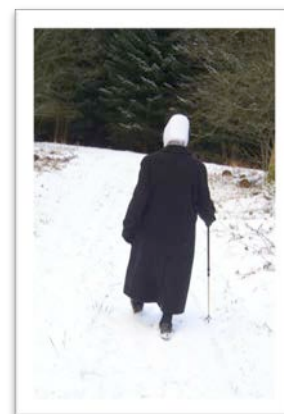
Completed by Karen Nolte

Editorial

It is already the fourth edition of the EAHN Bulletin, where you find reports on the nursing history activities in your European neighbour countries. Thank you for the various contributions!

With best wishes for the Advent season and for Christmas from the snowy Würzburg in Germany!

Karen Nolte



Denmark – The Danish Society of Nursing History (DSHS)

by Susanne Malchau Dietz

The Danish Society of Nursing History (DSHS) was established 1997 as the result of an increasing interest in nursing history in Denmark.

The aims of the society is:

- To promote the interest in nursing history in Denmark, the Nordic Countries and internationally
- To promote historical scholarship in nursing
- To support and cooperate with the Danish Museum of Nursing History established 1999, e.g. in

planning seminars and collecting material to the museum exhibitions, archives and library.

Membership to the DSHS is open for nurses and non-nurses. The annual fee is 175 DKR for individuals and 550 DKR for institutions. Membership includes free access to the Danish Museum of Nursing History, seminars arranged by the DSHS and the journal *Sygepleje & Historie* (Nursing & History) published twice a year. The society's website is www.dsr.dk/dshs



In 2014 the Danish Society of Nursing History has especially focused to make new strategies to increase memberships of the society and new ways to strengthen our support to the Danish Museum of Nursing History. Due to sickness of members of the board there is however very little to report this year. We look forward to give a detailed report of the progress and successes of the society next year.

Susanne Malchau Dietz, PhD, MSc (Nursing), RN

Historian in Residence, the Danish Museum of Nursing History

President the Danish Society of Nursing History (DSHS)

President the European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN)

Third Annual Seminar – Section Historical Nursing Research (German Association for Nursing Science) 21 February 2014

by Mahilde Hackmann

The third annual seminar of the section historical nursing research (German Association for Nursing Science) took place in Düsseldorf-Kaiserswerth and was hosted by Fliedner Fachhochschule (Fliedner University of Applied Sciences). Apart from members of the section we were happy to welcome some guests, so we were about 20 persons.

The seminar started with a short walk to the nursing museum on the grounds. Dr Annett Büttner, Fliedner Kulturstiftung, was enthusiastically giving us a good impression on the highlights of the museum. This introduction together with the provision of a seminar room and refreshments made us all feel very welcome. The call for abstracts had been successful and six papers were given.

The first three papers addressed the 19th century and the early 20th century. Dr Annett Büttner reported on results from her doctoral thesis on war nursing in the 19th century by religious groups of nurses. The paper was followed by a paper on nursing in catholic hospitals in the Ruhr area by Dr Arne Thomsen. The third paper given by Henrike Sappok-Laue addressed the biography of Henriette Arendt (1874-1922), who was qualified as a nurse and a social worker and combined both qualifications in her work life.

In the second part of the seminar the speakers concentrated on the 20th century. Dr Kristina Matron gave a paper on social work for the elderly in Frankfurt during the period 1945-1985. Edgar Bönisch reported on a planned project to present research results on the motherhouse of the Jewish sisterhood and the Jewish hospital in Frankfurt to the public in May and September 2014. Claus-Henning Ammann und Angelika Ammann finally addressed the history and the current situation of the hospital museum in Bielefeld. This last paper was enriched by the presence of a theatre sister having worked in the municipal hospital of Bielefeld and inviting the audience to share some of her professional memories.

The visit at the museum at the beginning of the seminar and the last two papers at its end successfully framed the research papers. On my way back to Hamburg, lasting a couple of hours by train, I thought about the issue of involving the public in our research and presenting our results. Although the group of nurse historians in Germany is quite small and most of us do historical research on a small scale, with no or low budgets, often in our free time, should we not more consider to involve the public? What are we doing so far?

Up to now public research funding in Germany requires sustainability and of course researchers have to publish their results, but normally publications in academic journals will do. No one asks us if we publish our research in the daily newspapers or in other popular forms. And no one asks us how we involved the public in finding our research questions. Compared with for example the regulations of the RCN (www.rcn.org.uk) which require researchers sending in conference abstracts to give information on how the public was involved, the requirements for German nurse historians are quite little. Although the RCN regulations were set up for health research we could learn from them and think about it. The idea of a museum, of small scale exhibitions and local or regional events for nursing history could be taken into account and there might be more interested people than we think.



Participants at Fliedner Fachhochschule

Germany: International Conference: “Nursing 1914-1918: War, Gender and Labour in a European Perspective,” 22 – 24 May 2014 in Ingolstadt Germany

by *Karen Nolte*

Organised by Karen Nolte and Susanne Kreutzer, in Cooperation with the German Museum for the History of Medicine, the City Museum of Ingolstadt and the EAHN

The year 2014 marks the hundredth anniversary of World War I. This conference was an occasion to bring together and compare the various national and transnational “histories” of nurses and carers appointed during the First World War, and to discuss the research results.



Alongside the physicians, the nurses in the First World War made great contributions to the care of both physically and mentally wounded soldiers and also of civilians. Simultaneously, the carers were central agents within the military apparatus returning soldiers to battle as efficiently and as quickly as possible. In Germany, nurses are of low significance in the collective memory of the First

World War. Even the inclusion of women’s perspective into the historical narrative during the last twenty years did little to change this situation. Only during recent years, with the shift in the research towards personal testimonies, have nurses and carers come into the focus of writing the history of WWI.

In her key note lecture, Christine Hallett (Manchester, UK) examined the way in which the First World War both divided the world’s nurses and yet also – for some – enabled them to push forward their international project of demonstrating the value of nursing practice. It was to be thirteen years before the International Council of Nurses – the group which had gathered in a spirit of such optimism in the vibrant pre-war city of Cologne, would have a chance to meet again. By then, their respective professions had taken different paths. Some nursing services had clearly gained recognition as a result of their war service. Others were still struggling to recover from the devastation and economic and political disruption which had been occasioned by the war. Her paper took a deliberately international perspective on the pre-war campaigning, the wartime work and the post-war recovery of what, in the early twentieth century, viewed itself as a truly international profession.



The first panel illuminated the history of everyday nursing within nursing care on the battlefield, focussing on the events behind the frontline (Astrid Stölzle, Germany) and at the homefront in the hospitals in Paris (Cherilyn Lacy, USA). The second panel discussed how the deaconesses in Kaiserswerth prepared themselves for the care of the wounded between the wars of 1871 and 1914 (Annett Büttner, Germany) and how we have to assess the relationship between catholic and secular nurses in France during WWI (Katrin Schultheiss, USA).

The curator of the exhibition “Who cares – History and Everyday Life of Nursing” subsequently gave a guided tour through the museum. The third session centred on nurses from the so-called neutral countries as reports by these nurses on their care for the wounded were presented. Topics of discussion were Swiss nurses in Austrian military hospitals (Sabine Braunschweig, Switzerland) and the employment of Danish and Norwegian nurses during the war (Inger-Marie Børgesen, Denmark; Jorunn Mathiesen, Norway). The conference ended with contributions on literary and filmic representation of nursing care on the battlefield during the First World War in British autobiographies of nurses (Jane Potter, UK), in letters by French and British nurses from the colonies (Alison Fell, UK) and, finally, in the cinema of the 1920s and 1930s (Karen Nolte, Germany).

Germany: Foundation of the German Association for the History of Nursing

by *Karen Nolte*

During the International Conference on the History of Nursing during World War I in Ingolstadt, on 22 May 2014 the “German Association for the History of Nursing” (GAHN) was founded. The GAHN intends to promote interdisciplinary exchange of experts in the field of the history of nursing. Simultaneously it will establish professional standards for research and teaching with regard to the humanities, cultural studies, social science, and human science. A key goal of this association is to root the history of nursing within these various disciplines and in particular in nursing science.

Planned activities of the GAHN:

- Workshops on methodological and theoretical approaches in writing nursing history
- International conferences
- Policy interventions to embed the history of nursing within the various curricula of the disciplines
- Joint publications

Board members

Prof Dr Susanne Kreuzer (Münster), PD Dr Karen Nolte (Würzburg), Dr Annett Büttner (Düsseldorf), Dr Sylvelyn Hähner-Rombach (Stuttgart) und Dr Sünje Prühlen (Hamburg)



First GAHN Workshop, 1 November 2014 in Münster: Praxeological approach to the history of nursing

The first workshop of the association focused on the question of how praxeological approaches can be utilised within the research on the history of nursing. At the beginning of the workshop the participants discussed theoretical standard texts, which they had read in advance. As a warm-up, Karen Nolte gave a brief presentation on the texts prepared. Using the research projects of the participants, they discussed to what extent the theory of the practice approaches differ from previous approaches that utilized concepts of the history of the everyday.

At the centre of practical perspectives is the concept of the historical subject. If we follow the theoretical assumption that subjects are created by actions, subjects that act have to be re-considered within the history of nursing. Simply put, according to this theory agents do not “invent” or develop their practices but only become subjects in the history of nursing, e.g. as professionally working nurses, through their specific practices. Nursing practices can thus be analysed within the more complex context of subjectivisation and new insights on the social meaning can be gained from precisely these practices.

Presenting her research on “Body, Practice and Gender. On the productivity of a praxeological perspective in the research area of chronic diseases” (Körper, Praktiken und Geschlecht. Zur Produktivität einer praxeologischen Perspektive im Forschungsfeld chronischer Erkrankungen), the sociologist Ulrike Manz illustrated

how the materiality of both the body and inanimate artefacts structure the perceptions within the field. Isabel Atzl presented her current research project titled “Nursing things. A research project on objects funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research” (“Pflegedinge. Ein vom Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) gefördertes Projekt zur Objektforschung“) that addresses the relationship of artefacts/objects and nursing practices.



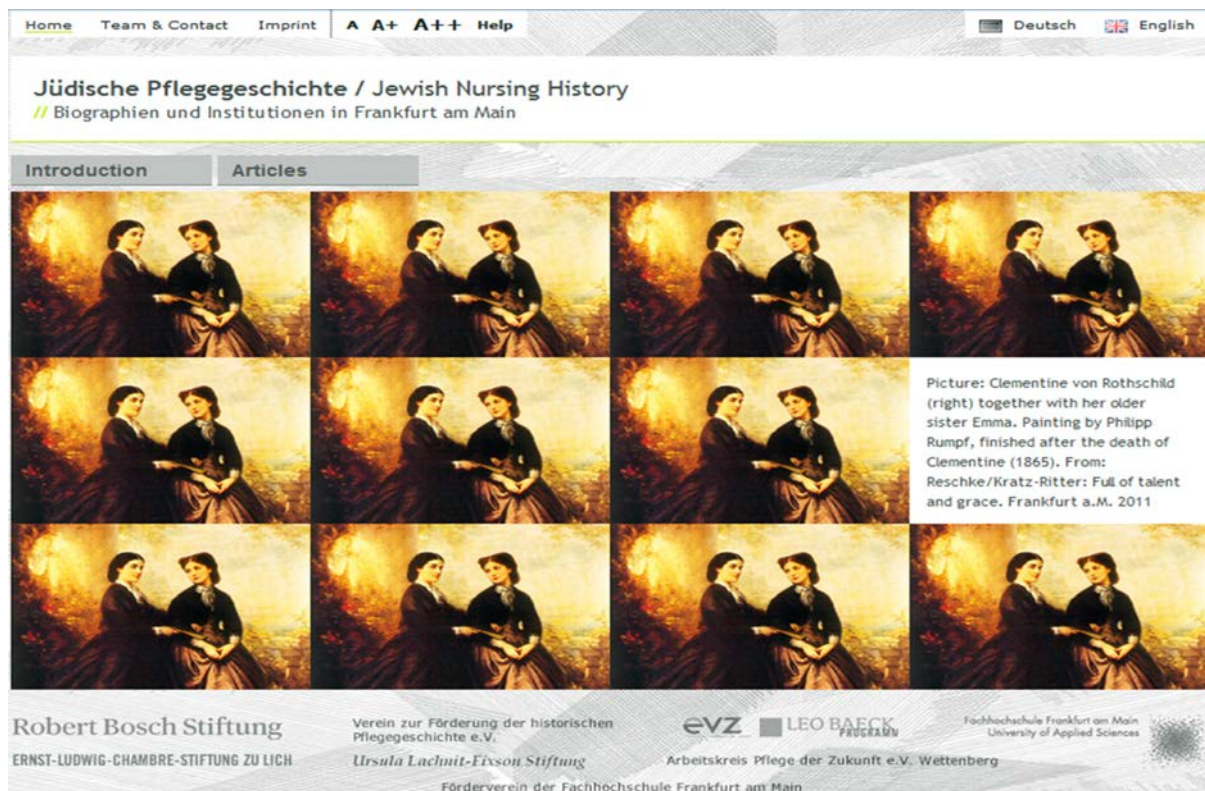
The second workshop with the title “Professionalisation and De-professionalisation” will be taking place on 31 October 2015 in Würzburg (Institute for the History of Medicine). That workshop is going to keep the same format as its predecessor in 2014. In preparation the participants will read theoretical and methodological texts. Susanne Kreutzer will be preparing the opening presentation on the texts and there will be a call for papers on the topic.

Germany: www.jewishnursinghistory.eu – Offers Information on German-Jewish Nursing History

by *Eva-Maria Ulmer*

The website www.jewishnursinghistory.eu offers information about biographies, institutions, buildings, places, and sources of German-Jewish nursing history at the example of Frankfurt/M. A research team, led by Prof Dr Eva-Maria Ulmer, has been creating a scientific database, from which www.jewishnursinghistory.eu is derived. Members of the research team, Dr Birgit Seemann and Dr Edgar Bönisch, are compiling articles, indexed items and audio-visual media. Besides the Library and Department of Nursing and Social Work at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, institutions

such as the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Ernst-Ludwig-Chambré Foundation are currently supporting this unique project. The project has also gained international interest from conferences in Cambridge (UK), Kolding (DK), Jerusalem, and Vienna. Since September 2014, eleven more articles were translated into English for international users from the more complex German website, www.juedische-pflegegeschichte.de. Cooperation and funding partners are welcome for upcoming projects such as Jewish child care.



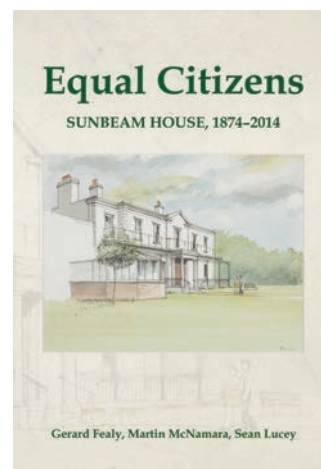
Ireland: Irish Association for the History of Nursing and Midwifery

by Gerard Fealy

At its meeting in March 2014 the Coordinating Committee of the European Association for the History of Nursing approved an application from the newly-constituted Irish Association for the History of Nursing to become the Irish affiliate of EAHN. The Association replaces the UCD Irish Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery, which is now subsumed into the Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland (CHOMI)

<http://www.ucd.ie/historyarchives/body.htm> where the work of historical scholarship would continue. The mission of the Irish Association for the History of Nursing and Midwifery History is to promote the development and advancement of nursing and midwifery history through scholarship, dissemination and public engagement and outreach.

New publication from Irish scholars



Equal Citizens: Sunbeam House Services, 1874-2014 (ISBN 978-0-9929068-0-1) was published in September 2014. Written by Gerard Fealy, Martin McNamara and Sean Lucey, the book tells the history of Sunbeam House from the time of its founding as the Home for Crippled Children in Bray in 1874 to its development as one of the

leading voluntary disability service providers in Ireland. The book was commissioned by Sunbeam House Trust and is available from Sunbeam House Services, Bray, Ireland <http://www.sunbeam.ie/home.html>

Italy: Studying the Past to Influence the Future.

by Anna La Torre

During year 2014, the Camillian jubilee year was opened to celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the death of St. Camillus de Lellis (1614-2014). St. Camillus was born in 1550, in Abruzzo, a region of central Italy. At the age of 17, Camillus decided to follow his father's footsteps and became a mercenary soldier. He lived a dangerous life and was a man of violence and vices. Suddenly, after he developed a leg wound that gave him the opportunity to experience himself that century's treatments, He vowed to live his life only for God. He went to Santo Spirito Hospital, in Rome, where the sick were not well cared for. Eventually, Camillus realized that God was calling him to care for the plague ridden sick people in Santo Spirito Hospital and in the city of Rome, and he dedicated his life to serving the merciful Jesus Christ in the sick and dying. He realized he could not do this alone and he called other men to follow his example, embracing not only the three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience but also a fourth vow "to care for the sick even with danger to one's own life". No patient was too dirty, too sick or too malevolent for him not to be tenderly cared for. The new Religious Order officially came into being on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of year 1591, when Camillus and his first followers took their vows. The work of Camillus was described by Pope Sixtus V as a "new school of charity". Camillus served the sick tirelessly throughout his life, His greatest joy being to stay in the midst of the sick and to be able to alleviate their suffering through nursing care. He would feed them, wash them, bandage their wounds and he would even confess his sins to them and ask pardon of them. His *Regole per i Ministri degli infermi*, He wrote to educate his nurse followers, are a real nursing treatise. Camillus, having exhausted himself in the service of the sick, died on July 14, 1614 aged 64.

CNAI Nursing History Group participated in a big event at University of Milan to remember and celebrate this figure of our nursing Italian history.

St. Camillus health precepts, guidelines on nutrition as a source of healing, and nursing tips were very innovative, and are still valid. We can affirm that CNAI Nursing History Group is actually working as a bridge between past and future, as we are working to give our

contribution as nurses for *Expo Milano 2015* on the theme *Feeding the planet, energy for life* (<http://www.expo2015.org/en/>). In fact, CNAI has involved National Nurses Associations (GPAIN), and Nurses Councils of Lombardy (Collegi IPASVI), with the support of ExpoVillage2015 Committee, to become promoters of initiatives with the common logo NURSES FOR EXPO.



Expo Milano 2015 will gather both experts and common people to talk about the problems of nutrition and the resources of our planet. The idea is to open up a dialogue between international players to exchange views on these major challenges which are relevant to everyone. Many of the topics that are going to be discussed are directly related to activities that millions of nurses are playing in all countries of the world, from the prevention of major diseases to education to proper nutrition. In a moment of global crisis, resources allocated to health care are reducing. Disease prevention and promotion of healthy lifestyles require best practices in all nursing areas, where nurses can reach citizens and affect in a positive way their habits and behaviors.

Our President, Cecilia Sironi, participated in many events around Italy to promote nurses' role in health promotion and healthy nutrition. This theme has been also the one of CNAI National Conference, held in Bergamo on 9 and 10th October 2014 (www.cnai.info). An international Conference is planned in Milan on 10 and 11st September 2015. Join the fans in Facebook group and page Nurses4EXPO or write at nurses4expo@expovillage2015.it!

United Kingdom: 2014 Colloquium – ‘Nursing History: A Work in Progress’ Kingston University, London – 9 July 2014

by *Claire Chatterton*

The Colloquium is an annual event which brings together researchers, both novice and experienced, who are engaged in nursing history. It meets at a different venue each year and this year was hosted by Kingston University. The 2014 colloquium was led by Dr Sue Hawkins and featured a keynote paper from women’s and gender historian, Dr Deborah Simonton.

Some years the colloquium has had a theme but this year it returned to its roots, and a collection of papers were presented which focused on current work in progress. The papers covered a wide array of subjects and speakers came from across the UK but also the USA, Germany, Denmark and Canada.

The day began with Jane Brooks (University of Manchester) and her paper, “And I turned round and looked up the ward ... there was just a gaping great hole’: Nursing a nation under fire: Britain, 1940-1945”. Jane utilised oral history accounts to give a vivid account of nursing experiences during the Blitz. She was followed by Sue Hawkins (Kingston University) who spoke on, “On yer bike: using RBNA records to study the mobility of RBNA nurses in late nineteenth-century Britain.” She outlined the valuable resources that can be found within the archives of the Royal British Nurses’ Association and introduced some of the volunteers that are working with her on a project to transcribe the nurses’ records that are held there.

Following coffee, two international papers followed. Firstly Rima Apple (University of Wisconsin-Madison) gave an interesting paper on ‘Inspection is the least of it’: the development of school nursing in the first half of the twentieth century.’ She was followed by Kathleen Vongsathorn (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin) who presented her work on “‘These nurses will be missionaries’: Nurses and the Transmission of Biomedical Knowledge in Colonial Uganda.” She argued that while women rarely appear in formal medical reports generated within Uganda, biomedically trained women outnumbered men in mission medical institutions.

A convivial lunch followed and then the afternoon began with Dr Deborah Simonton (University of Southern Denmark), who gave her keynote speech

on “Before Nightingale: Gender, Caring and the Medical World” and illustrated her presentation with some fascinating contemporary accounts from Georgian England of those engaged in caring work and in the medical world.

Two papers then followed with mental health themes. Avril Ishmael (University of the West of England) presented part of her doctoral work, “The Construction of Professional Identity in the Nineteenth Century Asylum: Asylum Attendants and the Crafting of Occupational Roles” and illustrated her talk with some fascinating adverts from the Victorian period for asylum staff. This was followed by Claire Chatterton (The Open University in the North West). Claire is currently researching “Untold Stories of the First World War: Inpatient Psychiatric Care on the Home Front.” She outlined how the taking over of some psychiatric hospitals during the Great War for wounded soldiers led to 12,000 inpatients having to be moved to other institutions, some many miles away. The cost for them was high, with soaring morbidity and mortality rates as the war progressed.

After a tea break two further papers rounded off the day. Janet Hargreaves (University of Huddersfield) presented her work with Berenice Golding on, “‘Not for God, Queen or Country’: nurses motivation and experience of humanitarian work with Médecins Sans Frontières in the late 20th century.” Lastly Erin Spinney (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) discussed her work on “Care and Cleanliness: the Importance of Nursing in British Military Hospitals c. 1790-1815.” She argued that the increasing involvement of nurses in the pre and post-operative surgical care of personnel in British military and naval hospitals, demonstrated the increased status of military nurses in this period and situate their work within the medical model, shifting the realm of nursing work from the domestic sphere to environmental medicine.

Continuing the Colloquium’s tradition of providing a supportive environment for researchers to present their work, each paper was assigned a rapporteur, who provided initial feedback which was then followed by an open discussion.

Thanks very much to Sue Hawkins and all the presenters for what proved to be a very stimulating and enjoyable date. Please look out for details of the next colloquium at

<http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/ukchnm/ukahn>

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The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN)

The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN) was established 2012 to promote development and advancement of Nursing History through scholarly work and public outreach. The Association brings individuals and associations together in order to provide mutual support and opportunities for collaboration.

The purpose of the Association is to provide a European focus for the development of the discipline of Nursing History. It has three aims:

- To promote scholarly work in the Nursing History, by providing a mutually supportive network of individuals working in the field and by creating opportunities for direct collaboration on significant research projects.
- To promote the public understanding of Nursing History, by supporting initiatives for public engagement.
- To gain recognition for the discipline of Nursing History throughout the European region.

The Association has a federal structure. Constituent member associations are autonomous and self-governing. A constituent association may be administered through an academic centre, a scholarly society or an interest group. Each constituent association will be eligible to send at least one member to a European Coordinating Committee.

The membership comprises individuals who are members of a constituent association. The membership is intended to be inclusive. Members may be nurses or non-nurses, and might or might not hold an

appointment in a recognised academic institution. An individual from any part of the world may join any of the constituent associations, and thereby become a member of the EAHN.

EAHN member associations (and contact e-mail addresses)

Austria: *Historical nursing research in Austria* (golla@pflege-professionell.at)

Denmark: *The Danish Society of Nursing History* (s-malchau@mail.tele.dk)

Finland: *Finnish Association for History of Nursing Science* (irja.savolainen@saunalahti.fi)

Germany: *The Historical Nursing Research Section of the German Association for Nursing Science* (thiekoetter@fliedner-fachhochschule.de)

Germany: *German Association for the History of Nursing (Fachgesellschaft Pflegegeschichte)* (kreutzer@fh-muenster.de)

Italy: *Italian Nurses' Association with a Nursing History Group, CNAI (Consociazione nazionale delle Associazioni infermiere/i)* (latorretintori@gmail.com)

Ireland: *The Irish Association for the History of Nursing and Midwifery* (gerard.fealy@ucd.ie)

United Kingdom: *The UK Association for the History of Nursing* (Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk)

Netherlands: *Dutch Centre for Nursing History: Florence Nightingale Instituut* (nwiegman@fni.nl)

Norway: *The Norwegian Association for the History of Nursing* (ashild.fause@uit.no)

Poland: *Museum and Archive for Polish Nursing History at the Polish Nurses Association* (zgptpiel@gmail.com)

Spain: *Qalat Chábir. Asociación Cultural para el Estudio de las Humanidades* (hiades@arrakis.es)

Sweden: *The Swedish Society of Nursing (Svensk sjuksköterskeförening)* (catrine.jacobsson@umu.se)

Switzerland: *Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing* (gpg@gpg-hss.ch)

EAHN Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee consists of delegates from the member association. The committee meet at least once per year.

EAHN Coordinating Committee elected officers

President Dr Susanne Malchau Dietz, Denmark (s-malchau@mail.tele.dk)

Secretary Dr Gerard Fealy, Ireland (gerard.fealy@ucd.ie)

Communications Officer PD Dr Karen Nolte, Germany (karen.nolte@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de)

EAHN Bulletin

The annually EAHN Bulletin is published on the EAHN web page. Editor of the Bulletin is PD Dr Karen Nolte, Germany (karen.nolte@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de)

EAHN webpage

The EAHN webpage www.dsr.dk/dshs/EAHN is managed by web-master Gunilla Svensmark, Denmark (GunillaSvensmark@dsr.dk) (The webpage is hosted by the Danish Nurses' Organization)

EAHN Twitter account

The EAHN Twitter account [EAHN@HistNursingEU](https://twitter.com/EAHN@HistNursingEU) is edited by Dr Anja Peters, Germany (pflegewirtin@web.de)

Membership

If your association would like to affiliate with the EAHN please contact EAHN president Dr Susanne Malchau Dietz (s-malchau@mail.tele.dk). There are no fees for membership.

EAHN meetings 2015

The Norwegian Association for the History of Nursing is hosting the EAHN Coordinating Committees annual meeting at the University of Tromso, Norway, 26 - 27 February 2015.

A general meeting of all members and affiliates of the EAHN will if possible take place in relation to the American Association for the History (AAHN) Conference in Dublin, 17-21 September 2015. This will be further announced at the EAHN webpage