



## News from FEND



Happy New Year to you all, from FEND. We hope it will be a successful one for everybody.

The Executive Committee has been busy on your behalf with initiatives and, in particular, we have decided to disperse with our membership fee. However, you are still required to register as a FEND member each year, using the membership form that is now available on the website. It is essential for you to register to ensure that you continue to receive copies of the journal. In addition, you must be a member of FEND to qualify for nomination to serve on the Executive Committee.

We also ask you to spread the word among your colleagues to register as FEND members themselves: this will enable them to receive their own free copy of this journal. I am sure that you will agree that the journal is going from strength to strength, due in the main to the hard work undertaken by our two co-editors.

### Conference

The 2009 FEND conference takes place in Vienna, Austria. Details of this event, including a preliminary programme, are now listed on the website ([www.fend.org](http://www.fend.org)). The programme is exciting, and we are very much looking forward to hearing the results of a research study, undertaken by our co-editor Bert Vrijhoef, which is investigating the different roles carried out by diabetes specialist nurses throughout Europe. The conference will take place, for the first time, in a specialist conference centre: due to the success of the previous FEND conference and the large number of participants, we can no longer be accommodated in a hotel. We therefore look forward to receiving your applications for attendance again this year.

### FEND Professorial Chair in Diabetes Nursing

Several expressions of interest have been received from universities with regard to establishing a Chair in Diabetes Nursing. This, I think, is testament to the high

esteem in which diabetes specialist nurses are held and is a very exciting prospect for nursing. We hope to be able to announce the successful candidate in the coming months.

### Collaboration with other organisations

FEND is a partner in a number of projects that have been set up to manage the important issue of the global pandemic of diabetes.

We have been invited to join the International Diabetes Federation Europe, Primary Care Diabetes Europe, EURADIA, the European Association for the Study of Diabetes – and possibly also the World Health Organization – in arranging a meeting to mark the 20th Anniversary of the St Vincent Declaration, to be held later this year. The pandemic of diabetes raises issues which require urgent attention from all sectors of society and government. This meeting should provide the opportunity to look at some of the challenges that we face, and help us to consider the way forward.

Over the past year, FEND has also been working in partnership with the IMAGE project. The Development and Implementation of A European Guideline (IMAGE) and Training Standards for Diabetes Prevention was set up to improve the ability of EU countries to prevent type 2 diabetes in Europe. The main objective of this project is to establish best-practice standards and joint quality indicators for diabetes prevention programmes all over Europe. FEND is committed to working together with this and other projects, to help to begin to have an impact on the diabetes pandemic.

I look forward to meeting you all in Vienna and especially to receiving your abstracts describing any research studies and innovations in care with which you have been involved. The co-editors of our journal will also welcome any submissions of articles that you may have, for possible publication within this journal.

**Deirdre Kyne-Grzebalski**  
FEND Chairman

### Conference Notice

## 14th FEND Annual Conference 25–26 September 2009, Austria Center, Vienna

#### For further details and to register please contact:

Kristin de Backer, Fazantenlaan 6, 2610 Antwerp - Wilrijk, Belgium  
tel: +32 3449 4374; e-mail: [registration2009@fend.org](mailto:registration2009@fend.org); website: [www.fend.org](http://www.fend.org)