



News from FEND



Another successful and busy year for FEND is coming to a close – a year that has seen some of our initiatives come to fruition. In addition to our annual conference we had a number of excellent applications from prestigious universities for the Professorial Chair in Diabetes Nursing; a very successful research module for the FEND ENDCUP Course delivered in Barcelona; and the preliminary report of our SEND Research Project findings.

We welcome two new members to the Executive Committee, Jaqueline Herbst from Switzerland and Sijda Grum from The Netherlands, and look forward to working with them over the next few years. We are also, on your behalf, working in collaboration with other organisations, to raise the profile of diabetes nursing and highlight the importance of providing high quality care for people with diabetes throughout Europe.

Annual conference

The conference, held in Vienna this year, was once again well attended (>650 delegates) and highly evaluated. It was held in a conference centre instead of our usual hotel venue, due to the high number of participants, which proved very popular with the delegates. The programme was well received with exceptional speakers who delivered highly appropriate and stimulating presentations. Bert Vrijhoef, Co-editor of the journal, presented the preliminary findings of our SEND research. You can find out more about these two topics from the excellent conference report, written by Dr Gillian Hood, published in this issue (pages 106–110).

Other highlights from 2009

King's College London has been chosen to host our second FEND Professor in Diabetes Nursing. It has advertised for expressions of interest from potential applicants, and we hope this will lead to an appointment in the near future. King's College already employs a number of Professors of Nursing so is an ideal choice for our FEND post. It also has excellent links with other universities in Europe. We wish them well with the appointment and look forward to meeting the successful candidate.

For the FEND ENDCUP course, an excellent second research module was delivered in Barcelona in June. The third and final module will take place in London in June 2010.

The IMAGE project, for which we are a collaborat-

ing partner, is in the final stages of its report which will be submitted to DG Sanco in the near future. Further details of the IMAGE project can be found on their website (www.image-project.eu). There is a conference in Dresden next year, which, although not directly associated with IMAGE, is about the primary prevention of type 2 diabetes and your executive committee will be participating in this important meeting.

FEND, through you the members, has been actively promoting World Diabetes Day. The International Diabetes Foundation (IDF) themes for World Diabetes Day over the next five years are education and prevention. FEND positively supports these themes, which will be reflected in our future conferences and through both national and European advocacy.

The St Vincent meeting planned for this year has been postponed and will now be celebrated as a 21st anniversary in November 2010, entitled 'St Vincent Coming of Age'. The final date will be announced soon.

European Diabetes Nursing

There have been changes to the editorial board of *European Diabetes Nursing*; namely, Sarah Hills has retired as editor to pursue other activities. We are very grateful to Sarah for the fantastic job she has done for us in developing the journal. Sarah has worked tirelessly from the first issue to produce a highly respected publication and a vehicle for nurses to showcase their work and share ideas for innovations in practice. We wish her every success for the future.

We are delighted to announce Dr Gillian Hood has agreed to co-edit the journal with Bert Vrijhoef. We look forward to having her expertise and new ideas and hope that you will all think of this journal first for any publications or innovations in practice you wish to share. Hope you enjoy this issue and share it with other colleagues.

Deirdre Kyne-Grzebalski

FEND Chairman

Become a member of FEND

Membership is open to all nurses throughout Europe working in diabetes and is now free to all applicants.

All members will automatically receive a copy of *European Diabetes Nursing* – the official journal of FEND.

Download an application form from the FEND website: www.fend.org and join free of charge.