

Call for Abstracts

www.astmanagement.com.au/acmhn9

Mind to Care

35th

International Conference
29 September – 2 October 2009
Sheraton on the Park, Sydney Australia

Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one

Conference Theme – Whichever way you read it, *Mind to Care* is about the recipient, the giver, the process, a mindful call, the world we live in and our stewardship of it. It's about people and personhood – Our understanding of the personal, biological, psychological, social and spiritual assets of the mind. The mind defines us and defies us – The mind remains the most challenging frontier of our times. It is our living home yet it is the seat of disruption, fear and chaos. In its workings it is awesome and like the person it serves, worthy of love, dignity and respect. Wonder of the natural world – The subject itself and the means by which we behold and create the world we live in, subjugate it or ourselves within it. That which we hold less dear, less sacred, take for granted, is capable of great works and deeds, ordinary happiness, comfort and compassion. It is inventive and resilient, yet capable of inflicting terrible poverty and pain (on self or others). We should take more care, nurture it, treasure it in health, and help others recover it in illness. The mind is our greatest gift, it is our lens – We use it to view the past, to live and explain the present, and envision our future. Whether on an individual, social or ecological level, it is the means by which we resolve and reform tomorrow's world, which our grandchildren inherit. Will it be a meaningful and prosperous one for all? What of our role? Do we have the means, the will, the voice, the *Mind to Care*?

Wellbeing = Mind/Body x Care of self & others

Scope of Practice – The teacher helps us explore its workings, the educator teach us how to care, prepare the mental health nurses of tomorrow. The nurse demonstrates contemporary knowledge in their practice and all their undertakings – The mental health nurse, their skill in caring for those whose lives are broken, help them seek it in recovery. The therapist explains their practice and compassion. The scientist rolls back the unfathomable, the physics of the mind, the researcher, the quantum of caring. The manager shows us how to direct our resources to meet those needs and our leaders, like the people we care for, inspire us. The artist reveals the creativity of the mind and our capacity to express ourselves. The ethicist reminds us of freedom of choice and what it means to be human. The philosopher lends conscience and consequence to our reason, as much as to shape our future. The professional and public media, where we make our practice, concerns and discipline visible. Humour connects and entertains us – Knowing where and when to take and not to take ourselves too seriously.

We invite you to the dreamtime to share your practice, your research, your world and inspire us – Sum of minds, your energy, your work, your insights and passion – Share with others. Limited only by your imagination – Mind and body – Mind over matter – Matter to energy $E=MC^2$. Curious matters whichever way you look at it.

Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts 42

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Due by 1 March 09

ON-LINE SUBMISSIONS

Call for Abstracts

I am the recipient, the giver
The process, the mindful act
I am the world and her ex-

Abstracts for papers addressing the conference theme and/or its components (maximum 250 words) are invited. Presentations will be 20 minutes with up to 5 minutes question time added. The main conference is concerned with mental health nursing practice in all settings and sub-specialties and this will be the primary target audience.

A concurrent symposium on day one and integrated into the main conference on day 2, will target nurses and midwives working in non-mental health settings. Papers should address the contemporary mental health care needs of clients or focus on the knowledge and skills for practice in these general hospital and community settings. We also invite abstracts on a sub-theme addressing the physical health needs of people with a mental illness. All papers must be original and not previously published or presented.

Call for Posters

Abstracts for technical posters addressing the conference theme and/or its components are invited. Posters must be original, not previously exhibited, specifications on conference website.

Call for Workshops

Gravitation is not responsible for people falling in love

A small number of pre-conference workshops on day one will be on offer to focus on the continuing education needs of mental health nurses and skills acquisition (duration up to 3 hours). Abstracts for workshops addressing the conference theme and/or its components (maximum 250 words).

Call for Artworks

A special feature of this conference is the call for artwork, a selection of which will be displayed at the conference. This can be in any medium, but this will need to be stated in order to determine capacity to display works. All art must be original and not previously exhibited. Either submit a written abstract describing the art and its medium, addressing the conference theme and/or its components (maximum 250 words) **or** submit an electronic image of the artwork with title and brief description (maximum 100 words) on-line or by email. Final works selected will need to be prepared ready to display, for visual art this means mounted and framed. Works can be offered for sale (with 30% commission), can be donated to the silent auction, or not for sale, at the discretion of the artist. Works accepted will be conditional on capacity to display either at the venue or an alternative site and that the artist accepts conditions of entry including loss or damage. The College will undertake to ensure careful handling and security of all works without liability.

Donations to Our Silent Auction

The tragedy of life is what dies inside a man while he lives.

Members, delegates, colleagues, friends and businesses are invited to donate items for silent auction at the conference. For example: Objet d'art, jewellery, haberdashery, artefacts, cosmetics, pottery, china, sports, electronics, unusual or rare books, pictures, small antiques and curiosities, and items of historical, cultural or professional interest. Provide description, estimated value and details of person/agency for list of acknowledgments. Contact and brief description of business may be included. Proceeds donated to mental health nursing conference grants and scholarships.

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