Welcome to the first edition of this international newsletter!
The idea for this newsletter was born during the 2nd International Conference LLP-ERASMUS
The aim of this newsletter is to inform you about the developments in elderly care in the Netherlands
and at the Saxion university of applied sciences. We hope this newsletter is a way to
connect universities of applied sciences in nursing and to collaborate on several themes in nursing
and nurse education.

We would like to write a newsletter two times a year. We are looking forward to receive input from you
to construct the next newsletter. Besides elderly care we also would like to publish other subjects in
nursing & education in the future.

Rene van der Woning and Jeroen Boonstra
Supporting and Strengthening Community Care for Elderly People in Ukraine

Since October 2007 staff of the Expertise Center Active Ageing & Palliative Care, led by prof. dr. Joy Notter, of Saxion University in Enschede, the Netherlands, are working together with the Ministry of Health, a number of Universities and health organizations from different cities and regions in the Ukraine to improve care for older people. All this can be realized because prof. dr. Joy Notter has awarded a grant process [so called Matra] from Foreign Affairs of the Dutch government.

Ukraine and the elderly

Ukraine achieved independence in 1991; this was followed by severe economic, social and political crisis. The majority of the Ukrainian population is below the poverty level. Among the most neglected strata of population are elderly people or pensioners. The elderly represent a large proportion of the population of Ukraine - about 13% of the total population is over 65 years of age. In Ukraine elderly suffer the problems of poverty. Apart from financial poverty, the elderly are confronted with other, social, problems connected with the inability of the state to provide health, rehabilitation, support to invalids, etc. The problems of pensioners can be grouped in categories having to do with income, health and rehabilitation, and psychological problems connected with loneliness, lack of legal support and social care. The social position of elderly people in Ukraine is far from rosy. The living standard of the population as a whole is low, but the living standard of elderly people is, even more so, mostly below an acceptable minimum. Life expectancy at birth as a whole was from 1970 – 1975 70.1 year, from 200 – 2005 it was 66.1. The probability at birth of surviving to the age of 65 is 76.4 for woman (in the Netherlands 89.7) and for men 46.6 (in the Netherlands: 83.7).

Health care facilities for elderly people leave much to be desired. Nursing homes are relatively unknown, “forcing” elderly people to fend for themselves as long as possible within their own community. Preventive care for elderly people is under-exposed and only for “lonely people” And Lonely people are those who do not have children or whose children are handicapped and not able to support their parents.

The project started with a Kick Of session organized by the Ternopil Medical State University in Ternopil. First the involved Universities and health organizations had to do their homework and explore the state of affairs in the field of care for older people in their own regions [Kiev, Odessa, Simferopol and Ternopil]. In the following workshop the Ukrainian presented the current situation of the care for the elderly in their region. We agreed to work in 5 working groups and every group started a pilot for Seamless Care Elderly People. The fifth working group, which has members of all the cities, had to develop a national curriculum for Elderly Care for the Family Medicine Nurse.

We just made a start with the last year of this three year programme and every University/Health Organization is making small steps to improve the care for the elderly. In Kiev there is a special center for elderly people where elderly not only come for medical information but also for social activities. As the partners in Simferopol have their focus on
involving voluntaries in their care programme for elderly. In September 2010 at the Closing conference in Cherkassy a handbook will be presented. The Handbook contains the story of every pilot and can be of use for other regions and universities in the Ukraine to develop the highly needed elderly care.

Inge Geerink, g.g.m.geerink@saxion.nl

Student Talk

By Bram Hengeveld, nursing student at Saxion University of Applies Sciences Enschede

Baccalaureate Gerontological and Geriatric Nursing Competence Profile

In 2005 a combination of educational and caring institutions created a document that defined the (core) competences for nurses who care for the elderly in nursing homes: het ‘VGG profiel’ or, translated into English: the Baccalaureate Gerontological and Geriatric Nursing Competence Profile (BGGNCP). (the BGGNCP has been updated in November 2007)

Based on a much used baccalaureate nursing competence profile (BNCP), the BGGNCP is adapted to meet the specific needs of care for (frail) older persons. Next to the twelve core competences already present in the BCP, the BGGNCP contains an additional five. These cover aspect of care concerning psychological and psychiatric care, palliative care, care for the terminally ill, care for caregivers, coaching of student nurses and calculating a client's individual need of care. The total of seventeen competences are divided into 5 nursing roles and each competence is defined by specific criteria.

A nation-wide project implemented the BGGNCP at the core of its practice and, starting in 2005, it has so far delivered 77 'Baccalaureate Gerontological and Geriatric Nurses' (BGGN). During their placements they focused on multidisciplinary care, care pathways, evidence based practice and well-being of those in need of care. These number and location of BGGN's illustrate two points:

Student Talk

By Bram Hengeveld, nursing student at Saxion University of Applies Sciences Enschede

My personal experiences with the BGGNCP are quite positive, although it took some time to get more wide-spread attention, both at Saxion and in the institutions where I did my placements. It is what it is, a profile and it will never be a blueprint for the profession of nursing care for older persons. One cannot define the fine art encompassed in the profession. Nevertheless: the BGGN is one of the known solutions we need to tackle the problems of the aging of society by providing a clear understanding of the competences involved in geriatric care.

It's role will focus on providing leverage for creating a high-level workplace in the care for older persons and providing in innovation, education and management of complex cases of care in home- and nursinghome care. All within an availability of care that is getting more tightly compressed.
Bets are we’re all going to need the Baccalaureate Gerontological and Geriatric Nurse sooner or later.


An online (Dutch) version of the BGGNCP is available at: http://vggprofiel.blogspot.com
At the 2nd International Conference LLP-ERASMUS we decided to start an international network for elderly care & education. We would like to have a list of experts in this field. We have made a concept list. Please check the information in the table below. If it is not correct or you want to add the name of a colleague, please send an email to Rene and Jeroen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the University</th>
<th>Name of the lecturer</th>
<th>Expertise</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Telephone nr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saxion University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Jeroen Boonstra</td>
<td>Elderly Care</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.s.boonstra@saxion.nl">j.s.boonstra@saxion.nl</a></td>
<td>0031534871519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxion University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>René van der Woning</td>
<td>Acute Care International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:r.j.a.vanderwoning@saxion.nl">r.j.a.vanderwoning@saxion.nl</a></td>
<td>0031534871563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savonia University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Hannele Korpela</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Hannele.korpela@savonia.amf.fi">Hannele.korpela@savonia.amf.fi</a></td>
<td>00358172556413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savonia University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Marja Aijo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Marja.Aijo@savonia.fi">Marja.Aijo@savonia.fi</a></td>
<td>00358 44 785 6425</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampere University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Paivi Salokangas</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Paivi.salokangas@piramk.fi">Paivi.salokangas@piramk.fi</a></td>
<td>0035583629789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampere University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Kaarina And</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Karina.and@piramk.fi">Karina.and@piramk.fi</a></td>
<td>00358405917255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College Syd</td>
<td>Inge Ruwald</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:imr@ucsyd.dk">imr@ucsyd.dk</a></td>
<td>004573429231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fachhochschule Osnabrück University Of applied sciences</td>
<td>Marlies Boeggemann</td>
<td>Elderly Care</td>
<td><a href="mailto:boeggemann@wi-fh-osnabrueck.de">boeggemann@wi-fh-osnabrueck.de</a></td>
<td>004954196930000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katholieke Hogeschool Brugge/ Oostende</td>
<td>Ann Winne</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ann.winne@khbo.be">Ann.winne@khbo.be</a></td>
<td>003250405120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katholieke Hogeschool Zuidwest Vlaanderen</td>
<td>Goedele Baekelandt</td>
<td>Pediatric care</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Goedele.baekelandt@katho.be">Goedele.baekelandt@katho.be</a></td>
<td>0032 51 232330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESENF Porto</td>
<td>Fernando Teixeira</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fteixeira@esenf.pt">fteixeira@esenf.pt</a></td>
<td>00351225096337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
<td>Maria Mitsuiga</td>
<td>Head of department of nursing</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmitsuiga@ns.moh.gov.cy">mmitsuiga@ns.moh.gov.cy</a></td>
<td>0035722801751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Cyprus</td>
<td>Stavroulla Antoniou</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stavroulla.antoniou@cut.ac.cy">Stavroulla.antoniou@cut.ac.cy</a></td>
<td>0035725002390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham City University</td>
<td>Nathalie turville</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Nathalie.turville@bcu.ac.uk">Nathalie.turville@bcu.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>00441213316714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salford University</td>
<td>Paula Howe</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:p.howe@salford.ac.uk">p.howe@salford.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>00448452340184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tallinn Health College</td>
<td>Tiina Juhansoo</td>
<td>International Co-ordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tiina.juhansoo@ttk.ee">Tiina.juhansoo@ttk.ee</a></td>
<td>003726711730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haute ecole de Sante Geneve</td>
<td>Dominique Bidet-Dazin</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@hes-so.sh">info@hes-so.sh</a></td>
<td>004132424990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelische Ausbildungstatte des Munsterlandes fur Pflegerische Berufe e.V.</td>
<td>Annette Schmidt</td>
<td>Head of department of nursing</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Annette.schmidt@eam-muenster.de">Annette.schmidt@eam-muenster.de</a></td>
<td>0049251209240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There will be an European Nursing Congress in the Netherlands, October next year. The central theme is older persons as the future of care.

In this congress, nurses from all fields of health care, including homecare workers, general hospital staff, mental health professionals and carers for the mentally disabled, are invited to share their methods and their research findings with regard to care for older persons. The motivation and training of students to train in caring for older persons is another key component. To ensure quality of care for older persons both now and in the future, issues regarding the labour market and labour saving must be brought into focus. How can we create greater efficiency of care by means of, for example, technological support? Innovation, new ideas and creativity in organizing care will be highlighted during the Congress.

Saxion is one of the sponsors of this congress. Rene and Jeroen are preparing an oral presentation about Elderly care & education. During this congress we will present our intention to start an Intensive Programme in Elderly Care for students and lectures. If you are interested to join this programme, you can send an email to Rene an Jeroen. We can introduce you as partners in our Intensive Programme in Rotterdam.

For more information, visit the website: www.rotterdam2010.eu
We would like to sent you the next newsletter in April next year.

Some suggested topics for the next newsletter are:

- Technology & Care
- RAAK projects
- Intensive Programme Elderly Care & Erasmus
- Placements in a foreign country
- Student Talk: experiences during placements, especially elderly care

And of course: we would like to publish your input!

We would like to ask you to think about writing an article for this newsletter. Please send it to Rene and Jeroen before the 10th of April 2010.

Rene van der Woning  
**r.j.a.vanderwoning@saxion.nl**  
Lecturer in Nursing

Jeroen Boonstra  
**j.s.boonstra@saxion.nl**  
Lecturer in Nursing

Websites Saxion:

English: [http://www.saxion.edu/](http://www.saxion.edu/)  
German: [http://de.saxion.edu/](http://de.saxion.edu/)