

Global ophthalmic nursing forum - request for assistance from the WAEH

From: Heather Machin [<mailto:heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au>]

Sent: 17 October 2018 00:45

To: PROBERT, David (MOORFIELDS EYE HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

Subject: global ophthalmic nursing forum - request for assistance from the WAEH

Dear David

We have not met but I hope you do not mind my contacting you. Nora Colton gave me your email address. My name is Heather and I am voluntarily assisting the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and others, with the exploration and potential development of a Global Ophthalmic Nursing Forum, to coincide with the IAPB2020 Congress.

I email you in your capacity as Board Member of the World Association of Eye Hospitals – asking the Association to consider assisting with this opportunity.

I am in the process of communicating with a wide range of groups, including: ophthalmic nursing associations, individual nurses in countries without formal associations, and other interested parties, to ascertain the interest, need and value of this opportunity to nurses.

As I seek to contact at least one nurse in every country, I would very much like your support. Specifically, I request support to:

1. Identify, and connect me to, key enthusiastic nurses in hospitals/countries where your members work. I will invite those individuals to be part of the development of these activities.
 - a. If necessary, for cultural and political reasons, I am more than happy to accept more than one nurse contact per hospital/country. I am also happy for the nurses to be from a range of backgrounds and experience levels as they all have a perspective and require various levels of support (e.g. novice-advance-practitioner, staff nurse or educator, manager or educator, clinic-out-patient or operating theatre and so on)
2. Once event details are confirmed, I request that your member hospitals support the attendance and participation of their nurses to the 2020 event, and assist with sharing forward details of the event with their contacts.

While the forum itself will be a face-to-face event for nurses to meet, learn and share experiences, we hope this will self-initiate mutual interest to form a permanent ophthalmic nursing group focused on tackling the long term needs of the profession, and ensure their wider commitment and engagement of the blindness prevention strategies.

I intend to start working on the project in finer details in November and hope to have an enthusiastic and passionate group of key nurses from each country and key organisation involved. I hope the World Eye Hospital Association will be interested in assisting with these endeavours.

While there is no obligation, I would be most grateful of your support, as I am keen to ensure nurses from the world's leading eye hospitals, and their patients, are considered within the decision making of this forum and the potential long-term development of this specialist group.

On behalf of the IAPB and wider nursing community, I thank you for your consideration, and welcome your questions. I am also available for skype and WhatsApp., should you need.

Kind Regards

Heather

Heather Machin RN MBA – PhD Candidate

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