

CHAA NEWSLETTER - 1 July 2006

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the sixth CHAA Newsletter for 2006. This newsletter is one of a continuing series intended to disseminate useful sources of information and update our sponsors and key stakeholders regarding key CHAA research, events, and achievements.

Thanks once again to all our sponsors from the Health Capital Asset Managers' Consortium (HCAMC) jurisdictions for their ongoing support and feedback. Thank you also to our UNSW sponsors, especially those in the Faculty of the Built Environment (FBE).

CENTRE UPDATE

Events you should attend:

- **NSW Health APM Seminar**

NSW Health Asset & Contract Services has over the last year undertaken a procurement reform program for the delivery of new health facilities. An initiative known as the Asset Procurement Model (APM) has resulted. We are very pleased to extend an invitation for you to attend a joint NSW Department of Health and [CHAA](#) forum event: 'Better Health Facilities Delivered Faster' to be held on 12 & 13 September 2006 in Sydney, Australia.

A flyer with more detail and a draft program are available by visiting the CHAA website (www.chaa.net.au) under the Events Program tab. Further details about APM are available at www.health.nsw.gov.au/assets/links.html or by calling Myra Risk (Senior Project Officer, Major Projects Office, Asset and Contract Services, NSW Health) on +61 2 9391 9142.

- **CHAA Australasian Seminar Series update**

A timetable has been developed for all Health Capital Asset Managers Consortium jurisdictions to host these seminars in 2006 in each Australian State/Territory and in New Zealand before the end of the year.

The first seminar held in Adelaide, South Australia on 20th June, was organised by Asset Services, South Australian Department of Health. ***"This event has increased our commitment to testing & development of the guidelines for use in the South Australian context"***.

There were approximately 50 attendees from clinical areas of the Department, architects, project managers and others across a broad spectrum of health sector organizations: ***"It was a very good evening to kick-start raising awareness & understanding of the Health Facility Guidelines (HFG's)."***

The seminar program has a common set of topics based on CHAA projects and related research of

- (a) Australasian Health Facility Guidelines – R&D to date & user feedback;
- (b) Post-Occupancy Evaluation – CHAA methodology and guidance on use & user feedback;
- (c) CHAA website – resources available.

Please feel free to [email us](#) & Miriam will coordinate answers to any questions on these seminars.

- **CHAA Seminar Monday 17th July 2006: The European Health Property Network (EuHPN)**

Dr Marinus Verweij, Director of the Netherlands Board for Health Facilities and Chairman, European Health Property Network (EuHPN www.euhpn.org) will be speaking at a Centre for Health Assets Australasia (CHAA) Seminar on Monday 17th July from 5.30pm – 7.00 pm on ***"The European Health Property Network – work in progress"***.

Marinus is interested in feedback on Australian views of emerging issues so feel free to come & contribute. This event is FREE. Please RSVP to Miriam Burgess: CHAA.Admin@unsw.edu.au before COB Thursday 13 July for catering purposes.

Venue: Rupert Myers Theatre ('tilted cube' building opposite Entry via Barker Street, Gate 14)
UNSW Kensington Campus. ([map](#))

CHAA staff are also pleased to welcome the EuHPN team which will include Harry Post MSc, Head of the Quality Survey and Monitoring Unit and Just Eijkman MSc, Head of the R&D department to the Centre in early July.

Projects Update:

- **Health Facility Guidelines – Reviewers wanted**

Please consider being a Reviewer of the new Guideline components that are in development in 2006. In addition to internal CHAA and Department of Health review, we wish to obtain as wide a representation as possible from within the industry, encompassing designers, facility planners and practitioners – as individuals or as representatives of professional bodies, associations and other relevant organisations.

The following are priorities for new reviewers, to be completed by the end of August. If you are interested please [e-mail](#) Margaret Binnie, Research Fellow, CHAA (ph: 02 9385 4364). The Health Planning Units for review are:

- **Sterile Supply Unit/CSSD**
- **Day Procedure Unit**

- A review of the **Australasian Health Facility Guidelines – Part E (Engineering Services)** is being undertaken by John Horridge coordinating input from members of the Health Capital and Asset Managers Consortium. Release in draft form for industry comment will occur this year.

- **NSW Health Facility Guidelines – Part B Standard Components**

In addition to the current standard components, an additional forty (40) are in development for NSW Health. These are currently undergoing internal development via the Project Planning Committee & will available via the website (<http://www.healthdesign.com.au/nsw.hfg/>) for industry review in August 2006.

- **NSW Health Facility Guidelines – The Administration Health Planning Unit (HPU)**

This HPU has been developed, in order to make the information more readily accessible, and in part as a vehicle for promulgating the NSW Health Policy Directive **Office Accommodation Policy - Public Health Organisations and Ambulance Service, PD2005_578, 2005e**. The Administration HPU will be posted onto the NSW Health Facilities Guidelines web site this month.

The More Things Change.....



Welcome to a new section for this & possibly future CHAA Newsletters that will explore our past and encourage reflection on current healthcare facility design, service planning and delivery of services. Please feel free to submit items of interest on 'past' healthcare facilities to the Editor, Steve Tipper.

- **The socio-cultural context of Aboriginal health**

"Health does not just mean the physical well-being of the individual but refers to the social, emotional and cultural well-being of the whole community. This is a whole of life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life. Health care services should strive to achieve the state where every individual can achieve their full potential as human beings and thus bring about the total well-being of their communities." (National Aboriginal Health Strategy Working Party, 1989: x) [Source](#)

This quote, often used by other reports, remains useful as a reminder of the progress and failures in delivery of culturally appropriate health services to Australia's indigenous population. A 'history' of such reports is summarised on a www.Crikey.com [site](#)

USEFUL REFERENCES:

The CHAA website (www.chaa.net.au) has continuously updated content under the menu 'Links and References' as part of the Knowledge Management & Infrastructure (KIM) Project. The CHAA website is undergoing a systematic review process: please feel free to [email us](mailto:info@chaa.net.au) your suggestions.

Bookmark of the month: Culture & Health

This months Bookmark is in keeping with our interesting reading item (below) on Culture & Health.



The site by [Ruth DeSouza](http://www.wairua.co.nz/ruth/culture/culture_and_health.html) (homepage link) is an excellent portal, linking to other sites with issues related to "culture and health" by way of a focus on culturally appropriate services. The specific Culture & Health topics are found at http://www.wairua.co.nz/ruth/culture/culture_and_health.html

Culture and Health as Elements of Design

Culture and health are now recognised as interdependent. The realization that sustainability, flexibility and adaptability of health facility design have a cultural component is central to the mission of the Centre for Health Assets Australasia. 'Culture and Health as Elements of Design' is a new area which CHAA will be developing to underpin all the Centre's Programs (Program 1.0 Guidelines & Standards, Program 2.0 Benchmarking & Evaluation; Program 3.0 Capacity Building)

"In a four bed public ward, one of the patients begins their final life journey. There have been a number of family and friends around the person until this moment. As death approaches, more people arrive including their religious functionary. There may be 30 -50 people involved with the death"

So began a story from Rabbi Dr. Jeffrey Cohen (Conjoint Senior Research Fellow, School of Public Health & Community Medicine, UNSW) at a recent Centre for Health Assets Australasia meeting. This incident would certainly cause problems for the nursing management and is crucially affected by the facility design.

Culture in this context is interpreted in its broadest context such as – geographic; indigenous; Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups; gender; youth, elderly and work cultures. CHAA will bring together practitioners, planners and designers to contribute to cultural sustainability, flexibility and adaptability for health facilities; provide resources and contacts in the area; develop and answer research questions relevant to the field.

Future CHAA activities are planned, including a seminar, regular updates on relevant standards, articles, case studies and FAQ's. It is anticipated that contacts and people in the field may form in future an electronic discussion group. If you are interested in participating keep an eye on this CHAA Newsletter, visit our site for information & contact Tim Earnshaw the Program Coordinator on + 61 2 9385 5437 or email t.earnshaw@unsw.edu.au . Questions or comments are welcome.

Relevant Resources Links:

(This is an active site so please feel free to express your information needs)

1. CHAA FAQ's survey

[\(Link to CHAA FAQ's Survey here\)](#)

2. What Standards are relevant to culture and health as elements of design in Australasia?

[\(Link to relevant Standards here\)](#)

3. Where can I get Information and resources on this area?

[\(Link to more information and resources here\)](#)

4. What are the questions related to Culture and Health as Elements of Design? – A discussion outline

[\(Link to related questions here\)](#)

ORGANISATIONAL NEWS:

CHAA and the GBCAus: CHAA staff (Patrick Chu and John Horridge) are this week completing their expert input to the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) Technical Working Group which is developing the Green Star – Health As Built tool.

All Green Star tools are initially launched as PILOT tools with a 90-day public feedback period. Stakeholder feedback is used to refine the tool, which is then officially released. Details of the Green Star Environmental Rating System for Buildings are available online at <http://www.gbcaus.org/gbc.asp?sectionid=88&docid=952>.

CHAA and the RAIA: The close cooperation between CHAA and the RAIA on educational initiatives is of mutual benefit. These events are open to all health facility and asset managers from both the public and private sectors, free for RAIA members and a small charge for non-members. For further information go to <http://www.architecture.com.au/> and select the Chapter closest to you.

Capacity Building – linking Newsletters, website, seminars and other communications

The monthly Newsletter is a very visible part of the overall Capacity Building Program of activities.

It is intended that the generation of relevant content will be continuously improved with user-feedback and supported by data (website statistics etc) that ensures it is relevant to health facilities and asset managers, our CHAA.Net community in particular, as well as the wider 'public' audience.

Please feel free to contact [Steve Tipper](#) in his role as CHAA Newsletter Editor, regarding Newsletter content and related marketing, communication and Program development issues.

FUTURE MONTHS:

Please circulate the newsletter amongst your colleagues, consultants, contractors, etc and encourage them to go to our website at www.chaa.net.au to register for CHAA.Net free membership.

We welcome your feedback and please let us know of any areas of particular interest that we can address in future newsletters by emailing your comments, links for useful resources, news items etc for the next newsletter **by Friday, 28th July 2006**.

Regards,

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