



introduction

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first CHAA Newsletter for 2007. We trust you had a relaxing Christmas and Holiday Season and have returned to work rested, refreshed and invigorated. This newsletter continues to disseminate useful sources of information, and update our sponsors and key stakeholders regarding key CHAA research, events, and achievements.



EVENTS

→ [CHAA Conference 2007 Register Now!](#)

Thank you to those who took advantage of the Early Bird Registration for the CHAA Conference 2007 "Future Health Facilities: Sustainability, Financing, Design & Research" to be held at UNSW on **Monday 19 & Tuesday 20 February**.

It is not too late to register but the current rate (approximately half that of a comparable commercial conference) applies only until **2 February** and then increases to the **Late Registration** rate from **5 February**. Please refer to the CHAA website for the conference registration flyer and please bring the [Flyer](#) to the attention of your colleagues.



→ [CHAA Conference 2007 Sponsor Now!](#)

Please note that corporate sponsorship opportunities for the Conference are still available ([see website](#)). We are only able to charge our extremely competitive conference attendance rates due to the generosity of our conference sponsors – please consider demonstrating your support for our work in this practical and high profile manner.

→ [CHAA Australasian Seminar Series update](#)

Stand by for further information regarding 2007 seminars which are now being developed for various locations in Australia and New Zealand. They will continue to update industry regarding CHAA research, including further development of the Australasian Health Facility Guidelines, plus outcomes from the Benchmarking and Post Occupancy Evaluation Projects.

→ [Informa Conference 2007 Public Private Partnerships In Healthcare Summit](#)

The Public Private Partnerships in Healthcare Summit is being held 26-27 March at the Rendezvous Hotel, Melbourne. This event is cross-promoted by agreement between CHAA and Informa.

"The 3rd Annual Public Private Partnerships in Healthcare summit will showcase interactive studies and informative solutions on public and private healthcare partnership innovations." Jane Carthey is speaking at this event.

Please visit the Informa site www.informa.com.au/PPPhealth for the event brochure pdf.

A significant discount has been negotiated for CHAA.Net members. Download 10% discount CHAA members brochure (arrow down Informa webpage).

NEWS

→ RESEARCH UPDATE

Australasian HFG Announcement

The Australasian Health Facility Guidelines were launched in November 2006 for 12 months industry review and use and are accessible via the website www.healthfacilityguidelines.com.au. To view and download the new Guidelines, visit www.chaa.net.au and click on the HFG logo.

Australasian HFG Reviewer Input

If you are interested in reviewing any guidelines in the future, please contact Margaret Binnie via email chaa.admin@unsw.edu.au

In 2007, the 'new' Guidelines will be: Nuclear Medicine/PET, Cardiac Care Unit, in addition to review of existing Emergency Department, Inpatient Unit & Parts C and D of the Guidelines for Australasian use.

Sustainability Survey

CHAA.Net members are invited to complete this survey (a separate email was sent mid-December 2006). [Click here for survey.](#)

→ VISITORS & TRAVEL

Visit to WHO

Tim Earnshaw represented CHAA in recent meetings with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Health Organization-Western Pacific Region in Manila (Philippines). Tim met with Dr Jacques Jeugmnans (ADB) & Dr Soe Nyunt-U (WHO-WPR) and some of their staff to discuss the activities and role of CHAA and identify the health facility development issues for the region. The meetings were very informative.

Generally the need for responding constructively to the Asia Pacific cultural, economic, climatic, political and development contexts was discussed. Consultants should show an Asia Pacific understanding as it applies to health project planning and development and be willing to assist with the capacity building in the recipient countries.

Particular issues identified were: Sustainable technologies, water use in or by health facilities, laboratory technical capacity to address the avian flu threat, training and capacity building in health project planning, development and design.

In terms of the implications for WHO & ADB collaborations for future Centre research, it is anticipated that CHAA will be able to contribute constructively to regional health facilities development in the future.

→ VISITORS & TRAVEL

Visitors to CHAA

Mr Teng Hee Tan

The 19 January visit of Teng Hee Tan, Director Asset Management Unit, Capital Works and Asset Management Branch, Queensland Health was a most welcome start to our New Year.

Teng met with CHAA staff, mainly discussing with Steve Tipper and Keiko Hirota the development of the Capacity Building Program for 2007 in his role as the new Chair of the Capacity Building Program Working Party.

Prof Franklin Becker

Dr Jack Thiadens

Mr Rutger Kriek

For the February CHAA Conference we look forward to welcoming our International Keynote Speakers:

- Prof Franklin Becker, Professor and Chair, Department Design & Environmental Analysis, Co-Director, Design Concepts Laboratory, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- Dr Jack Thiadens MD, LLM, Chief Executive Officer, Martini Teaching Hospital, Groningen, The Netherlands (a joint presenter with Mr Rutger Kriek, CE, Project Manager AT-Osborne, The Netherlands)

CHAA TEAM JOB ADVERTISEMENT

The departure of Patrick Chu for greener pastures at the end of 2006 has left a vacancy in our capable CHAA research team. Much work remains to be done by the guidelines team in 2007 with the Australasian Guidelines entering a new phase in their development.

If you feel that a position at CHAA may interest you, please call us on (02) 9385 5619 or email chaa.admin@unsw.edu.au

A background in health facility design and briefing would be preferred, with an interest in research obviously important! This will be a contract position until the end of 2007 but the position may be continued on extension of the Centre's research contract from 2008 onwards.



CHAA CHRISTMAS PARTY on 13 DECEMBER 2006

This event was proudly sponsored by Polyflor Australia (website) who is a past sponsor of the CHAA Conference (2005) and their commitment to supporting our work and celebratory networking is gratefully acknowledged.

A high point of the evening was the presentation of an award by Hassell Architects to Robert Galati, winner of the competition for the best work produced in the Design Studio run by the Head of School Jim Plume and A/Prof John Mitchell for 3rd year design students working on a project to design a renal dialysis unit for an inner city site using Building Information Modelling (BIM).



Some of the CHAA Board Members attend the Party, including A/Prof Rosemary Knight (School of Public Health & Community Medicine, UNSW), Mr Richard Pye (Director, Asset Management Services, Asset & Contract Services, NSW Health) & Jane Carthey (Director, CHAA)



Jane & Patrick Chu. This was Patrick's last CHAA event as a member of the research team as Patrick is joining Hassell Architects in the New Year.



A section of guests listening while Jane spoke about the 'CHAA Year in Review'



CHAA guests in the FBE Foyer, University of New South Wales

STOP PRESS

Health Planning and Management Library - 2007 Library Bulletin - now available. Visit www.achse.org.au/nsw/library.html for Bulletins and Reading Lists on topics of general interest.

→ BOOKMARKS OF THE MONTH:

An extensive listing of online resources has been compiled by CHAA researchers, accessible via the CHAA website www.chaa.net.au under the [Links & References](#) menu. This takes you to the [Web Links and References Index](#) page providing a reference set of online information resources about 'facilities' topics to improve users' knowledge, education and skills in accessing and managing information on health facility design, planning and management.

*Tip: "Bookmark" the link above from your browser (or create as a "Favourite" in Internet Explorer) or save this document to your desktop for future use of this link: www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/chaalinks&refs_index.asp
Email CHAAAdmin@unsw.edu.au if you require further instructions.*

The following are examples of 'recommended portals' accessible from the reference set under the heading "Facilities Information Resources":

→ [Architecture and Building](#) A guide to internet sites on architecture, building and construction, design, housing, planning, preservation, facility management, energy and the environment, and landscape architecture, compiled by Jeanne Brown, University of Nevada Las Vegas Architecture Studies Library. This Internet Database is very extensive.
<http://library.nevada.edu/arch/rsrce/webrsrce/main0001.html>

→ [TenLinks.com](#) Portal site that catalogues and ranks the best and most useful sites for architecture (including aecportico sites extracted below), and construction and engineering (multiple disciplines) with an emphasis on computing and technical sites. www.tenlinks.com

→ [aecportico](#) Provided by the UK based National Building Service as a service to the UK construction industry with "links to the best and most useful information in the architecture, engineering and construction sectors, free of charge." Visit this site for its links via a guide in each domain (General Guide, architecture below). The site also has a Directory of professional bodies and trade associations relating to the UK construction industry. www.thenbs.com/technical/aecportico



→ HISTORICAL WORDS OF WISDOM

The following quotes are taken from a research report into information use by health facility planners and designers (a survey that has been in effect updated by the one conducted by CHAA and the RAlA in December 2005):

→ Quote #1 – referring to design faults caused by lack of flexibility in the original design work:

“No design plan or design is ever right for more than the time the decision is made. We have to incorporate the latest thought. The planners are advised by the hospital authority in the design stage that they need this, this and this. The architects crystallise this and design it and then the hospital staff decide a machine is obsolete and they need another instead.”

→ Quote #2 – financial constraints on hospital design:

“Those determining policy are only worried about the financial aspects, and that would affect the type of information available. I know this from bitter experience.”

→ Quote #3 – attitudes to information sharing:

“We would not be inclined to give information to other consultants which we’ve taken a long time to accumulate...it’s our bread and butter.”

→ Quote #4 – information use:

“I don’t put much store on information anyway...I don’t need a lot of documents on hospitals. If I have to design a hospital I work out how to design it myself”.

→ Finally some quotes that indicate that possibly there is some hope!

“One overriding problem in Australia seems to be the proliferation of uncoordinated data from various sources which overlap or conflict. There is no one source or authority which one can go to and know that the relevant information is there and that it can be scanned reasonably quickly and easily...”

We like to think that in establishing CHAA we have taken on many of the challenges posed by this earlier research study - a study completed in 1976 by the School of Health Administration (John Green and Mirella Heath) at a time prior to the establishment of Hosplan.

Thus it appears that our Centre is continuing a long line of attempted responses to the issues highlighted and hopefully...we may be getting some of these things right.

→ CLOSING COMMENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHAA

We continue to acknowledge the support of all our sponsors from the Health Capital Asset Managers’ Consortium (HCAMC) jurisdictions and UNSW sponsors, especially those in the Faculty of the Built Environment (FBE) and look forward to an ongoing and productive relationship in 2007.

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.

On behalf of the CHAA Team, I look forward to your comments on the Newsletter and our work, and participation in future CHAA activities throughout 2007.



Jane Carthey
Director, CHAA



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