



Welcome

Welcome to the March/April CHAA Newsletter. 2009 brings tremendous opportunities and we are looking forward to engaging in new and exciting research, collaborations and partnerships.

This newsletter will continue to disseminate useful sources of information, and update our sponsors and key stakeholders regarding key CHAA research, events and achievements.

CHAA News

→ Australasian HFG

The Australasian Health Facility Guidelines (AusHFG) are our main area of research and we continue to develop and provide information on capital planning, service & facility planning and current policy directions.

The current Program of Work includes the following reviewed Health Planning Units (HPUs):

- Part A
- Part C
- Standard Components Groups A & B (a total of 120 standard components)
- Front of House (formerly known as Main Entry Unit, combined 3 HPUs as 1 HPU: Combined HPU Main Entry Unit, Public Amenities Unit and Pastoral Care)
- Admissions Unit

There are currently 10 HPUs at varying stages of review.

In second draft review:

- Part D
- Acute Adult Mental Health
- Nuclear Medicine

In first draft review:

- Inpatient Unit
- Operating Unit
- Medical Imaging
- PET
- Coronary Care Unit
- Cardiac Investigation Unit
- Rehabilitation Unit

The target date for Australasian Health Facility Guidelines Version 3.0 to be published is May 2009.

AHIA Emerging Issues Workshop

The AHIA Emerging Issues Workshop No.5 was held 6 March in Sydney, NSW on HPU Multipurpose Services (MPS). Please click [here](#) for report.

→ ACHSE 2009 Congress

ACHSE has partnered with CHAA to host the 4-7 August National Congress

"Building our Healthcare System around people and their needs". The focus is on three sub themes: Building People, Building Services/Systems and Building Infrastructure. CHAA.Net members can register online at the discounted

rate (under Member). For more information, visit www.achse.org.au

→ HMinfo

The Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo) is a major program unit within CHAA. HMinfo develops and disseminates home maintenance and modification knowledge in order to improve outcomes in direct service provision as well as improving outcomes for the general community through capacity building activities.

HMinfo welcomes back Lyndal Millikan. Lyndal is an Occupational Therapist who is part of the HMinfo Research Team.

HMinfo has produced two new publications which will be available on their website in the near future:

- *Evidenced based research: the effectiveness of ceiling hoists in transferring people with disabilities*
- *Evidence Based Research Bulletin; The application of colour contrasts in the home environment of the elderly and visually impaired individuals.*

They have also produced a new training video for handrails entitled "Off the Rails" which will be officially launched next month.

Please visit the [HMinfo website](#) for more information on this important work.



→ **AusHFG staff required**

CHAA will be looking for additional staff in 2009 to work on developing and reviewing the Australasian Health Facility Guidelines (AusHFG) Health Planning Units and other sections.

We welcome confidential enquiries from those interested in working in a pleasant university environment on interesting and challenging work. Positions available immediately and throughout 2009.

Please register your potential interest by emailing CHAA.Admin@unsw.edu.au

→ **Professor Franklin Becker**

Prof Frank Becker arrived in late January and stayed with us until mid-March, working on various research projects, developing ideas and proposals for research and mentoring CHAA researchers in his areas of expertise.

He is currently the Chair, Design and Environmental Analysis, Professor in Facility Planning & Management and Human

Environment Relations and the Director of the International Workplace Studies Program in the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University, NY, USA.

His background is social and environmental psychology; his research has focussed on workplace design in the office sector and more recently for health facility projects.

→ **Cornell-UNSW Exchange**

Prof Becker, Prof Martin Loosemore and / Prof Jane Carthey have been pivotal in the establishment of a student exchange program between the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University, USA and the University of New South Wales. The exchange is intended to

provide opportunities for undergraduate students from both universities to study abroad and return to their home institution to obtain a degree. For more information, visit the Cornell College of Human Ecology webpage and the UNSW International Student Exchange webpage.

→ **Events**

CHAA SEMINAR No.1 "Barbarian at the Gate" 3 March

CHAA & the FBE Interior Architecture Program welcomed Frank Becker as guest speaker for our first Seminar for 2009. After an introduction by Prof Alec Tzannes, Dean of FBE, Frank spoke about "Heretical Ideas for Designing University Buildings".

IRMRC-CHAA-SRSS SEMINAR "Ecology of the Nursing Unit" 3 February

The NSW Injury Risk Management Research Centre (IRMRC), CHAA and the School of Risk & Safety Sciences (SRSS) hosted this seminar and invited Frank to speak about "Ecology of the Nursing Unit - The Impact of the Physical Design on Improving the Quality and Safety of Care".

CHC, UTS SEMINAR "Ecology of Resilience" 12 March

The Centre for Health Communication, UTS hosted a seminar on the Ecology of Resilience. Frank was invited to be one of the speakers and his talk centred on 'Rethinking the Nursing Work Environment: Patient Safety, Quality of Care and the Organizational Ecology of the Nursing Work Environment'. Jane was a panel member for the discussion that followed the speaker presentations.

AHHA THINK TANK 13 March

The Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association (AHHA) ran a Think Tank Exchange on the topic "Infrastructure - National-building Investment to Build a Health System for the Future". Frank was an invited guest speaker and Jane was an invited industry expert.

→ **European Healthcare PPPs**

Geerf de Wulf from Twente University, The Netherlands met with Jane, Patrick Chu & John Horridge from CHAA and Annette Schmiede from ASHealth in March. Geerf gave an overview on the future Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) development in The Netherlands and Europe.



→ Health Facilities Conf

The Health Facilities Design & Development 2009 Conference was held in Brisbane 17-20 February. The conference theme was "Planning & Designing Innovative Health Infrastructure to Surpass Current and Future Patient Needs". Jane Carthey chaired Day One of the Conference and conducted a half day workshop on "How to Future Proof your Health Facility". This event was so successful, another Conference is being planned for June/July in Melbourne.
[Click here for more detail.](#)

→ CHAA Published Work

CHAA publications include refereed journal articles, refereed conference papers, research papers, project reports and conference and seminar presentations.

Recent publications include the Carthey, Chandra & Loosemore article, *Adapting Australian Health Facilities to Cope with Climate-Related Extreme Weather Events* in the special issue, *Journal of Facilities Management*, Vol.7, No.1, 2009.

To view, visit our [Published Works webpage](#).

→ Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards DRAFT

On 2 December 2008, draft Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards, together with a number of associated documents, were tabled in the House of Representatives.

The Government proposes to refer the draft Premises Standards to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs and to ask the Committee to conduct consultations on the draft Premises Standards and to report to Parliament in the first half of 2009.

Visit the Attorney-General's website for more information.

→ the last word

Our thanks for the ongoing support of all our sponsors from the Australasian Health Infrastructure Alliance (AHIA) jurisdictions and UNSW sponsors, especially those in the Faculty of the Built Environment (FBE).

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. [Click here](#) to email your comments, links for useful resources, news items etc.

Regards,

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Centre for Health Assets Australasia



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