KNA Welcomed Prof. Oksoo Kim as its 35th President

KNA elected Dr. Oksoo Kim (Professor of Division of Nursing Science, Ewha Womans University) as the 35th KNA President at its 81st Annual General Assembly (AGA) held at Crystal Ballroom of Lotte Hotel Seoul on February 18-19, 2014. The posts of First and Second Vice-Presidents were filled with Dr. Soo Yang (Dean of the College of Nursing, Catholic University) and Dr. Soon-rim Suh (Professor of the College of Nursing, Kyungpook National University), respectively. KNA also elected eight board members and two auditors. Dr. Oksoo Kim received her Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing at Ewha Womans University, and Ph.D. in nursing at the University of Nebraska. She is also currently appointed to diverse prominent posts including President of the Korean Society for Simulation in Nursing, and President-Elect of Sigma Theta Tau International Lambda Alpha Chapter at Large.

The Organizing Committee Embarked on Inearnest Preparation for ICN Conference and CNR 2015.

The Organizing Committee of ICN Conference and CNR 2015 Seoul held a signboard-hanging ceremony in the Korean Nurses Association (KNA) headquarters at 4:00pm on October 15, 2013. The 8-day event takes place on June 16-23, 2015 under the theme of “Global Citizen, Global Nursing” starting with the Council of National Representatives (CNR) meeting. The Organizing Committee is anticipating to greet some 6,500 participants including global nursing leaders from 135 countries.
ICN President Judith Shamian Visited KNA

ICN President Judith Shamian visited Korea on March 10-17, 2014 to support KNA’s successful hosting of ICN Conference and CNR 2015 Seoul. At her meeting with Health and Welfare Minister Hyung-pyo Moon and Seoul Mayor Won-soon Park, she secured a full-pledged support for the event from the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Seoul Metropolitan Government. Her visit to Korea is significant in that it demonstrated the keen attention, as well as high expectations, that the global nursing community is paying to Korean nursing.

KNA’s First Nationwide Campaign for the Nursing Act is Wrapped up

Aiming to push through the Nursing Act through the National Assembly, KNA initiated a drive to collect signatures of supporters on July 1, 2013. KNA expects the Nursing Act would lay the legal foundation for a nursing workforce management system that puts the public health and safety first. As part of the drive, KNA waged the first nationwide campaign to secure public support on August 20 through October 31, 2013. Spearheaded by the KNA Volunteer Corps, KNA visited the elderly living alone and families of the disabled to offer cares putting the spirit of nursing into action. KNA also traveled over 3,500km covering 15 regions in the signature-seeking campaign — namely Jeonju (Aug. 20), Incheon (Sep. 4), Suwon (Sep. 11), Chuncheon (Sep. 12), Daejeon (Sep. 13), Ulsan (Sep. 14), Cheongju (Sep. 26), Cheonan (Oct. 4), Daegu (Oct. 8), Gimcheon, Busan and Gwangju (Oct. 11), Changwon (Oct. 16), Jeju (Oct. 18) and Seoul (Oct. 31) — collecting over 500,000 signatures as of the end of December, 2013.
Amendment of Declaration of Ethics and Guidelines for Ethical Conduct

KNA has completed the amendment of ‘Korean Nurses’ Declaration of Ethics,’ ‘Korean Nurses’ Code of Ethics,’ and ‘Korean Nurses’ Guidelines for Ethical Conduct.’

Following the fourth revision of ‘Korean Nurses’ Code of Ethics’ finished on July 23, 2013, KNA reviewed ‘Korean Nurses’ Declaration of Ethics’ and ‘Korean Nurses’ Guidelines for Ethical Conduct.’

The amendment was proposed to make the Declaration and Guidelines to reflect rapid changes in the health care and medical environment as well as define virtues that the society expects nurses to have in a clearer and more concrete manner. The proposal was approved at the 81st Annual General Assembly of KNA on February 19, 2014.

The amendment marks the completion of the renewal of the institutional foundation for Korean nurses’ ethical conduct.

The original texts of the amended versions of ‘Korean Nurses’ Declaration of Ethics,’ ‘Korean Nurses’ Code of Ethics,’ and ‘Korean Nurses’ Guidelines for Ethical Conduct’ are available online on the “About KNA” page of the KNA website (koreanurse.or.kr).

Nurselife
KNA Member Service Portal

KNA launched Nurselife (www.nurselife.or.kr), a portal site for the KNA members including nurses and nursing students, to provide a plenty of member services. Nurselife offers a plenty of benefits in various aspects of KNA members’ work and life ranging from education, travel, culture and lifestyle to career (RNjob) and shopping (RNshop).

KNA Website Renewal Open
Fine-Tuned to the Needs of KNA members

KNA opened its renovated homepage (www.koreanurse.or.kr) on May 1, 2013. The top priority of the renewal was placed on enhanced user convenience so that nurses can acquire all of their desired information in a single visit to the KNA homepage. The homepage design reflects the latest web-design trend.
Launch of the Korean Mannurses Association
First President Jang-eon Kim

The Preparatory Committee for the Foundation of the Korean Mannurses Association (chaired by Kyung-hyun Oh) held the inaugural assembly under the theme of “Future and Vision of Male Nurses” at the auditorium of Seoul National University Children’s Hospital on April 20, 2013. At the assembly sponsored by KNA, Mr. Jang-eon Kim, Head Nurse of Pediatric Surgery Division at Seoul National University Children’s Hospital, was elected as the first president.

KNA-NIH Joint Online Survey
On the Health Status of Korean Women Nurses

KNA launches a large-scale research project on the health status of Korean women, the first of its kind in Korea, jointly with the National Institute of Health (NIH). The three-year project aims to identify factors that influence the health and diseases of Korean women by tracking the health status, lifestyle, disease-related characteristics and prevalence of nurses of childbearing age through online survey. Nurses wishing to take part in the online survey are invited to visit the Korea Nurses’ Health Study (KNHS) website (www.nhskorea.kr).

Career Fair
For Nursing Students

The KNA-Nurse Life Career Fair for Nursing Student held at the Chung-Ang University R&D Center auditorium on November 30, 2013 was concluded as a huge success with the participation of 450 or so nursing students from across the country. The Career Fair was co-sponsored by the Council for Heads of Nursing Department of Korean Universities and the Council for Heads of Korean Nursing Colleges.

Healthy Breastfed Baby Contest
in 14 regions Across the Nation

The annual Healthy Breastfed Baby Contest launched jointly by the KNA central association and regional chapters in 1995 was held in 14 regions in June-September, 2013. The primary purpose of the event is to promote the advantages of breast milk and encourage more moms to breastfeed their babies.
Leadership Program
For Nurse Managers’ Competency Enhancement

KNA held a leadership enhancement event for nurse managers at Konkuk University KUL House on November 14, 2013, as part of its commemoration of the legacy of Yeong-bok Lee (former KNA President, penname Baekyang). The event was organized as a venue where nurse managers acquire knowledge, know-how, and attitude that leaders need to have so that they can better perform their duties. Over 80 nurse managers in head nurse or higher-rank positions in hospitals took part in the leadership program.

Mobile KNA

KNA launched its mobile website (m.koreanurse.or.kr) on March 1, 2014 in a bid to improve its communications with members.

Anyone can access the mobile homepage via such mobile platforms as smartphone and tablet PC anywhere anytime to get diverse information on nursing. The mobile website employed the ‘responsive web’ system that re-arranges the contents to fit the width of a given web browser so that the website can be viewed in the best-possible condition in any smart devices.

The main page contains the most-used categories including “Notice” which communicates major KNA news and issues real time with members. And the ‘Education Calendar’ menu was newly added to provide information on diverse training and education courses designed for nurses.

The menu icons on the mobile website – including “KNA License Registration Center,” “KNA Edu Center” (Continuing Education Center), “the KNA News,” “KNHS,” “Nurselife” (KNA member services), “RNbook” (an Internet bookstore for nurses), and “KNA Human Resources Development Center” – enable users to find information on regional chapters and affiliated organizations, how to become a KNA member, a Registered Nurse, an Advanced Practice Nurse, potential career paths, license exams, and more, in a single touch.

In addition, the mobile website is equipped with a search function through which users can search for certain hospitals and nursing schools by region or keyword.

“We expect the mobile website to facilitate KNA’s communications with members furthermore,” said a KNA official.
Six Career Centers for Nurses

This year, Korean nurses can receive career services from six career centers.

The career centers are operated by five regional chapters of KNA (Busan, Incheon, North Chungcheong, South Chungcheong, and North Jeolla) and Department of Nursing at Kyungbok College, respectively, that were chosen by the Ministry of Employment and Labor as the official partners for the ‘Back-to-Work Project 2014’ for inactive nurses.

The centers help nurses, who left the profession due to pregnancy, childbirth, or childrearing, return to work with confidence. They also provide career services for entry-level nurses and nurses who have been between jobs for less than six months.

Career consultants (who are also nurses) at the career centers offer one-stop service with a full range of assistance from career counseling to job placement.

They first understand the work experience and preferred working conditions of a job-seeking nurse through one-on-one interviews and then strive to find a job that best matches them.

In addition, the center runs online theoretical courses developed by the KNA for nurses whose career has been discontinued for a prolonged period. Online registration is available on the homepage of any of the six career centers.

The career support for inactive nurses was initiated in 2011 with seven career centers, and five and six career centers were in operation in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

‘Clean Politics and Nurses’ Campaign

KNA launched the ‘Clean Politics and Nurses’ campaign in July, 2013. The campaign is second of its kind following the ‘Nurses in Politics’ campaign that was waged in August, 2012, to make the voice of nurses to be better heard by politicians. The ‘Clean Politics and Nurses’ campaign was organized as a means of nurses to join their forces to the social efforts to make a cleaner political environment where sound healthcare policies could be made and implemented to enhance public health and patient safety.