

Run for International Council of Nurses (ICN) Presidency Council of National Representatives (CNR) 16-19 May 2013



DENOSEA President, Dorothy Matebeni, and General Secretary, Thembeka Gwagwa at the Council of National Representatives



Outgoing ICN President Rosemary Bryant and ICN CEO David Benton at CNR2013

Council of National Representatives (CNR), the governing body of ICN, met in Melbourne Australia from 16 May until 19 May. CNR last sat in Malta, April 2011. Every four years CNR responsibilities extend to electing the President, the three Vice Presidents and eleven members of the Board of Directors representing the five areas of ICN. The number one position of the Presidency is the one position that is highly contested.

On 16 May 2013 the three candidates running for ICN President, presented their manifestos to the CNR and engaged in a question/answer session with CNR members.

Candidates for ICN President

1. **Judith Shamian** – If elected, the former President of the Canadian Nurses Association will bring decades of leadership experience to ICN’s helm to unite the nursing profession and harness its collective power to improve global health. Over the years, Canadian nurses have held a wide range of leadership roles at ICN, but it has been 40 years since the last Canadian president. “I am well aware that in many parts of the world our profession still faces significant challenges in obtaining its rightful place at the policy and practice table. As ICN president, I would seek to maximize our organization’s effectiveness as a highly-respected vehicle that enables the nurses of the world to speak with one voice, consolidating evidence and expertise into a coherent message that cannot be ignored” says Shamian.

2. **Beatriz Carvallo Suárez** – The candidate from Columbia is an outgoing member of the ICN Board of Directors and former President of the National Nurses Association of Colombia. Suárez states that all contributions made by ICN in its three pillars of intervention should be exploited and applied by the NNAs for the advancement of nursing around the world. They must also make every effort to secure nurses’ commitment to the social needs of the people, by participating in the formulation of public health, social security, education, and employment policies, among others.

3. **Teresa J.C. Yin** – The candidate from Taiwan is an outgoing ICN 2nd Vice President, former member of ICN Board of Directors member and former President of the Taiwan Nurses Association. Teresa J.C. Yin believes that ICN should prioritize organize more nursing leader training programs. “ICN is urging health professionals to implement measures at the national level to create high-quality, positive, and healthy working environments for nurses. Nurses deserve to be treated fairly and on a par with other healthcare professionals in terms of pay, respect and resources. I support ICN’s continued attention and action on this issue” she said.

Elections for ICN President and Board of Directors will be held on 18 May 2013 and the results will be announced on 19 May 2013.