VOORWOORD

1982 was 'n jaar wat in die toekoms bestempel sal word as 'n geskiedkundige jaar vir verpleging in Suid-Afrika, 'n jaar waarin dit duidelik was dat die beroep dinamies is en ontwikkel om tred te hou met die nuwe eise wat 'n veranderende samelewing stel.

Daar is op verskillende gebiede van die beroep mylpale bereik en besluite geneem, soms nadat daar jare en selfs dekades lank vertoë gelewer is.

Op die gebied van verpleegdiens is die beroepspesifieke bedeling vir verpleegpersoneel aangekondig. Dit behels nie net verbeterde salarisse vir verpleegpersoneel nie, maar ook die rasionalisering van die postestruktuur en maatreëls vir beter personeelbestuur en ander probleemareas.

Verpleegonderwys gaan aanmerklik gemoderniseer word. Hierdie jaar in Mei het die Minister van Gesondheid aangekondig dat die beginsel van affiliasie van verpleegkolleges met universiteite goedgekeur is. Daar is sedertdien reeds baie voorbereidingswerk in dié verband gedoen. Dit lyk asof dit verreikende gevolge sal hê aangesien die hele verpleegonderwysstelsel herorganiseer sal word om verskeie leemtes gelyktydig uit te skakel.

Daar sal 'n aantal artikels oor die affiliasie van verpleegkolleges met universiteite, wat handel oor die geskiedenis, hoofbeleidsriglyne en -rigtings in die volgende uitgawe van Curationis verskyn.

Nog 'n ontwikkeling in verband met verpleegonderwys was die aankondiging van die Suid-Afrikaanse Raad op Verpleging op sy vergadering van 21-23 September 1982. Die beginsel is aanvaar van 'n nuwe omvattende benadering tot basiese verpleegonderwys wat algemene, psigiatriese en gemeenskapsverpleging en verloskunde sal insluit. Die redes vir die belangrike ontwikkeling blyk duidelik uit die artikel in hierdie uitgawe van Margaretha C. van Huyssteen oor die beskikbaarheid van verpleegkundiges vir 'n omvattende gesondheidsdiens.

Op die gebied van professionele organisasie is die nuwe Grondwet waarvolgens die Suid-Afrikaanse Verpleegstersvereniging sedert Mei 1982 funksioneer, van groot belang. Daarin word voorsiening gemaak vir die desentralisasie en breër verteenwoordiging van verpleegkundiges in besluitnemende liggame. Daar is reeds tekens by verpleegkundiges van groter betrokkenheid by en meer belangstelling in professionele aangeleenthede.

Verpleegnavorsing is noodsaaklik vir professionele vooruitgang, en dit regverdig meer aandag. In Maart 1982 se uitgawe van dié blad is daar melding gemaak van 'n werkseminaar vir verpleegnavorsing wat gehou en deur verpleegleiers oor die hele land bygewoon sou word. Die werkgemeenskap het baie goed daarin geslaag om probleme te identifiseer en oplossings aan die hand te doen. Een van die belangrike gevolge daarvan was die stigting van 'n verpleegnavorsingseenheid by die Suid-Afrikaanse Verpleegstersvereniging. Sy hooftaak sal wees om verpleegnavorsing in Suid-Afrika te bevorder, te koördineer en fondse te verkry.

Die bogenoemde ontwikkelings is almal in die implementeringstadium — en dit beteken baie harde werk volgende jaar. 1983 is die Jaar vir Kommunikasie, en tereg, omdat kommunikasie die sleutel tot geslaagde verandering is. Die verpleegberoep moet beplan, bespreek, kennis deel en gedagtes wissel om uiteindelik koördinasie en samewerking te bewerkstellig. As vaktydskrif vir verpleging in Suid-Afrika word voorsien dat Curationis ook 'n betekenisvolle bydrae tot die kommunikasieproses sal lewer.

FOREWORD

1982 was a year which will in future probably be labelled as a historical one for nursing in South Africa, a year in which it was evident that the profession is a dynamic one which develops to keep pace with new demands made by a changing society.

Milestones were reached and decisions taken in different spheres of the profession, in some instances after years or even decades of representations.

In the area of nursing service the career specific dispensation for nursing personnel was announced. This involved not only improved salaries for nurses but also a streamlining of the post structure and measures to better nursing personnel management and other areas of concern.

Nursing education is to be modernised considerably. In May this year the Minister of Health announced that the principle of affiliation of nursing colleges with Universities had been approved. Much preliminary work has since been done in this regard. It appears that the impact will be far-reaching as the whole system of nursing education will be reorganised to eliminate various problem areas simultaneously.

A special feature on the affiliation of nursing colleges with Universities dealing with the history, main policy guidelines and trends will appear in the next issue of Curationis.

Another development in nursing education was the announcement made by the South African Nursing Council at its meeting of 21-23 September 1982. It had approved in principle a new comprehensive approach to basic nursing education which will include general, psychiatric and community nursing and midwifery. The reasons for this essential development are evident from the article in this issue by Margaretha C. van Huyssteen on the availability of nurses for the provision of a comprehensive health service.

Of major significance in the area of professional organisation is the new constitution under which the South African Nursing Association has functioned since May 1982. Provision was made for decentralisation and wider representation of nurses on decision-making bodies. Signs are already evident of more involvement and interest among nurses in professional affairs.

Nursing research is essential for professional advancement and an area which warrents greater consideration. In the March 1982 issue of this journal it was mentioned that a workshop of nursing research was to be held, attended by nurse leaders from the whole country. The workshop was most successful in identifying problems and proposing solutions. A meaningful outcome was the establishment of a nursing research unit at the South African Nursing Association. Its main functions will be to promote, co-ordinate and to obtain funds for nursing research in South Africa.

Each of the above developments are in the implementation phase which implies much hard work next year. 1983 is the Year of Communication — appropriately, because the key to successful change lies in communication. The nursing profession must plan, discuss, share knowledge and ideas to eventually achieve co-ordination and co-operation. As the professional nursing journal in South Africa it is envisaged that Curationis will also contribute meaningfully to this communication process.