Ming-neng Shiu, Vice Minister of Ministry of Health and Welfare; Judith Shamian, President of ICN; Masako Kanai-Pak, 1st Vice-President of ICN; Sheuan Lee, ICN Board Member; and Teresa Yin, National Ombudsman. Their dynamic presentations and rich experience helped broaden participants’ professional perspectives and horizons. Throughout the conference, participants were encouraged to learn the latest knowledge and visit the exciting exhibitions.

The 2014 Taiwan Nightingale Nursing Leadership Program was held on October 24th and 25th. The goals of the program include cultivating the broader perspectives, personal growth, communication, leadership and political participation necessary to extending the visibility and influence of nursing in public policy in the future. There have been three sessions from 2011 to 2013, with a total of 86 outstanding graduates.

39 previous graduates were invited as return participants in the 2014 program. The program used a “world café” format, breaking participants out into small group sessions to further stimulate discussion and sharing on the topic of “Future visions and implementation strategies for the Nightingale Nursing Leadership Program”. Participants offered strong and creative inputs, and established a solid act plan for near future. Dr. Shwu-feng Tsay shared her experience of attending ICN 2014 Global Nursing Leadership Institute which held in Geneva in September. Her sharing gave participants a better understanding of the importance of developing international nursing elites.

Taiwan Nurses Association President Kwua-yun Wang enumerated the achievements of the program over the past three years and took the opportunity to announce the 2015 Leadership For Change Program. The Association, in conjunction with ICN, will hold its first LFC workshop in Taipei from April 6th-10th, 2015. It is anticipated that the program will further enhance the capabilities and confidence of current and future nurse leaders in Taiwan.

On September 13th, the Centennial Celebration commemorated the Association’s first one hundred years of achievement with motivational speeches from nurse leaders and senior government officials, nursing documentaries, musical and arts performances, and a festive luncheon. The Centennial Celebration was held in the Grand Hotel, with 500 nurse leaders, officials, friends and supporters from Taiwan and across the globe gathering to celebrate the strength of their community and to applaud the achievements that marked the Association’s first century.

A century ago, the Association was founded in Shanghai at its first meeting in 1914. The Association changed its name several times in Chinese, and received its current English title as the Taiwan Nurses Association in 2002. The TWNA aims to promote professional nursing services, improve nursing-related academic research, upgrade nursing education standards, promote the health of all citizens, and enhance its international standing and status.

The “Guarding Taiwan” documentary saw its first screening during the celebration. The documentary, which was filmed over the course of one year by TWNA, features the stories of five nurses from remote and mountainous areas around Taiwan. Working as a nurse in rural and remote areas is not easy, with many difficulties and tough situations to face. The audience saw in the film our nurses’ spirit of giving and sacrifice.
Their selfless contributions show everyone that nurses are always there to deliver comprehensive, quality universal health coverage. Moreover, a walk-through history exhibition was opened for participants during the ceremony. Old photographs, collectibles, and textbooks from 1914 to the present were on display to show the progress of nursing education and of nurse status.

The Association has invested significant talent and effort to develop its academic seminars, promote the clinical ladder system, establish professional qualification examinations, and promote nursing research. For the past 100 years, the Association has been here, during good times and bad, always helping, always caring, and always working to make lives better.

To thank our predecessors who have made valuable contributions to Taiwan nursing professionalism, the TWNA honored 9 former presidents and chairperson of controllers with special awards. Their efforts promote Taiwan’s quality of care and improve benefits for all nurses. They have given of their time, talents, and efforts to make all of our lives better.

The TWNA will continue to advance the mission and vision set forth by our predecessors, and will keep developing nursing professionalism and enhancing the status and respect of nurses in Taiwan through our second 100 years! Their selfless contributions show everyone that nurses are always there to deliver comprehensive, quality universal health coverage. Moreover, a walk-through history exhibition was opened for participants during the ceremony. Old photographs, collectibles, and textbooks from 1914 to the present were on display to show the progress of nursing education and of nurse status.

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The 2014 Asia Pacific Nursing Research Conference was held on September 11th-13th, attended by 919 participants from 14 countries. The TWNA held its first nursing research publishing conference 31 years ago. In 1998, the conference coincided with the Taiwan-China Academic Exchange and Visit, with 21 experts from Mainland China invited to attend. The number of articles published between the first conference in 1983 and our most recent in 2013 totaled over 6,300.

The theme of APNRC this year, “Promoting Global Health: From Research to Practice”, highlighted 7 symposia, 81 oral presenters, and 534 poster presenters from around Asia and showcased the current vitality in nursing research. Along with the scientific presentations, there were 17 exhibition booths with up-to-date information and feedback related to relevant fields of expertise.

The TWNA was privileged to have 5 renowned keynote speakers to share their vision and insights: