The Women in AMIA
UPDATE

Monthly E-Newsletter

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WOMEN IN AMIA NEWS:

"Nursing is an art: and if it is to be made an art, it requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation as any painter's or sculptor's work - Florence Nightingale p. 2

CELEBRATING NURSES AS PIONEERS OF INFORMATICS

In this issue of the newsletter:

- A look back in celebration of Nursing Informatics on May 12 during Nurses Week May 6-12 (p. 2)
- Announcement of the May and June podcasts, highlighting Dr. Thankam Thyvalikakath, trailblazer in Dental Informatics, and Dr. Hongfang Liu, discussing networking and mentoring (p. 4).

Previous issues of the WIA newsletter can be found on the Women in AMIA webpage here.

Steering Committee Members:

Tiffani Bright, Wendy Chapman, Prerna Dua, Tiffany Leung, Allison McCoy, Omolola Ogunyemi, Margarita Sordo, Donghua Tao, Kelly Taylor (AMIA Staff), Rebecca Wilgus, Karmen Williams

CELEBRATING NURSES AND NURSING INFORMATICS

Information Compiled by Rebecca Wilgus, RN, MSN

2020: The Year of the Nurse

Marking 200 years since the birth of Florence Nightingale, the World Health Organization named 2020 the "Year of the Nurse." Florence Nightingale was one of the first women to be admitted to the Royal Statistical Society for her early work with infographics and visualizations. Nightingale "...made the case for hospital sanitation using a variation of the pie chart, entitled 'Diagram of the Causes of Mortality in the Army in the East,' to show that more soldiers died from infections than from injuries." She drew the chart to "affect through the eyes what we may fail to convey to the brains of the public through their word-proof ears[1]."

On May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday was commemorated as Nursing Informatics Day during Nurses Week, May 6 - 12 [2,3]. Although the quest for a Nurses Week started in 1953, it was officially established by the US White House in 1974.

Florence Nightingale is considered one of the first informatics nurses because her work was guided by her quest for better patient data [4]. This was demonstrated by her meticulous documentation and visual presentation to improve the nursing care provided to British soldiers during the Crimean War [4].

"Nursing Informatics is the bridge between technology and patient care[4]," said Mollie R. Cummins, PhD, RN, FAAN. "Informatics is not about hard drives, and it's not even necessarily about programming, and we certainly cannot fix someone's problems with Outlook. Informatics is about how we're managing data, information from both a process perspective and a technical perspective to advance health care."

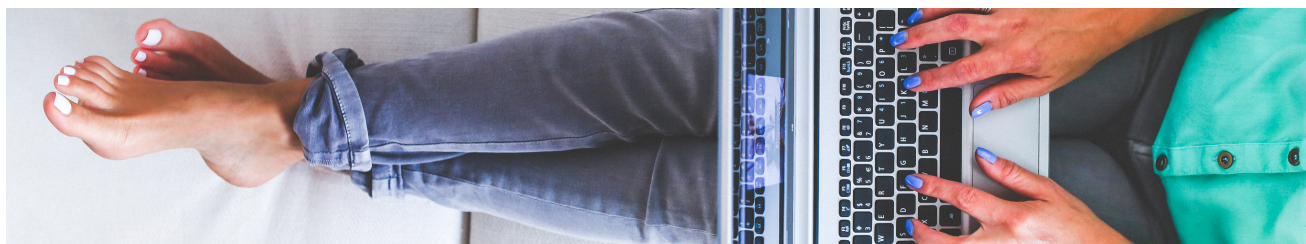Happy Nurses Week and Nursing Informatics Day! Thank you for your service!

1 https://worldin.economist.com/edition/2020/article/17519/florence-nightingale-and-changing-face-nursing
2 https://circulatingnow.nlm.nih.gov/2020/05/12/nightingale-lady-and-legend/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
3 https://www.nursingworld.org/education-events/national-nurses-week/history/
4 https://www.nursingcenter.com/journalarticle?Article_ID=2552970&Journal_ID=54016&Issue_ID=2552901
5 https://www.nursingcenter.com/ncblog/may-2016/nursing-informatics-day

Drop us a line!

Women in AMIA would love to hear from you about what's working, what's not and what to feature in future editions of the newsletter. We also have some questions for you: How are you dealing with COVID-19? In these trying times, how are you focusing on the positive?

Please email us at:

AMIA-2020womeninamiasteeringcommittee@ConnectedCommunity.org

The Women in AMIA Podcast

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As the director of the Dental Informatics Core initiative at the Indiana University School of Dentistry, Dr. Thankam Thyvalikakath is one of the pioneers in dental informatics research and practice. Dr. Randa Perkins hosts the interview as Dr. Thyvalikakath illuminates the challenges, triumphs, and career-life balance. **Episode 12 is available now here.**

Episode 13 will talk with Dr. Hongfang Liu, an NLP research leader, faculty at Mayo Clinic, and one of the most funded women in informatics. Dr. Wendy Marie Ingram hosts a delightful and insightful interview with Dr. Liu, which offers practical strategies for networking and mentoring. **Episode 13 available on June 2, 2020.**

Find these exciting interviews and more here. Do you know someone who would make a great guest on the WIA Podcast? Please contact Karmen. Please spread the word and stay safe out there! Thank you!