

NURSE EDUCATION CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 1996



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NURSE EDUCATION CENTRE

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ANNUAL REPORT

1996

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MISSION STATEMENT

Nurse Education has a pivotal role in ensuring that nursing practice is sensitive, relevant and capable of responding to a wide range of health and social needs of society.

The Nurse Education Centre has a mission on behalf of the Eastern Health Board to provide the highest quality of education and training at pre and post registration level.

This is achieved through team work, communication, a commitment to student centred learning and reflective practice. Meaningful learning projects and a range of clinical experiences directed to maximise the learning potential of the student. Essentially, the Nurse Education Centre endeavours to provide the student with this opportunity for personal as well as professional development. This will enable the student to apply his/her skills effectively in a range of practice settings to clients who present at different stages of the health illness continuum.

AIMS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- To provide opportunities for the student to explore and develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes congruent with competent psychiatric nursing practice.
- To facilitate the development of critical thinking in the student.
- To encourage the student to develop as 'agents of change'.
- To encourage the student to move their professional practice forward in a positive and constructive way.
- To provide the opportunity for the student to develop and grow in self knowledge through reflection upon experiences.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The staff of the Nurse Education Centre wish to acknowledge all those who supported and contributed to the activities of the Nurse Education Centre throughout 1996.

In particular a special thanks to Mr Michael Walsh, Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care, his staff, and Ms Mary Kelly, Personnel Officer for their combined commitment to the training and education of Psychiatric and Mental Handicap Nursing.

We are grateful for the commitment and time of all those specialists lecturers from areas such as mental handicap, child psychiatry, addiction studies, rehabilitation, counselling, behaviour therapy and forensic studies who have enhanced the quality of our nurse education programmes.

We acknowledge the commitment of the clinical staff, who's support is invaluable in assisting students in developing a contextual understanding of child and adult psychiatry and Mental Handicap Nursing.

CONTENTS

Page No.

Introduction	1	
Nurse Education Centre Staff	2	
Role of the Nurse Teacher	3	
Breakdown of Pre-Registration Groups		
First Year Student Group	5	
Second Year Student Group	6	
Third Year Student Group	7	
Finalist Group 1996	12	
Breakdown of Post-Registration Groups		
Mental Handicap Course	14	
Psychiatric Nursing Course	15	
Diploma in Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing	16	
Seconded Students		
Analysis of Seconded Students	19	
Continuing Education		
Forensic Psychiatric Nursing Course	21	
Rehabilitation - Working with the Long-Term Mentally Ill Course	23	
Mentoring Course	25	
Prevention and Management of Violence and Aggression	27	
Challenging Behaviour Course	29	
Diploma in First Line Management Course	30	
Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation Course	31	
Links with Royal College of Surgeons	32	
Nurse Education Centre Facilities		
The Library	34	
Audio Visual Department	35	
Conference Centre	36	
Visiting Students	38	
Report of An Bord Altranais Inspection		40
Educational Committee Representations		41
A Tribute to Michael McGuirk		43
Achievements in 1996		45
Goals for 1997		47

INTRODUCTION

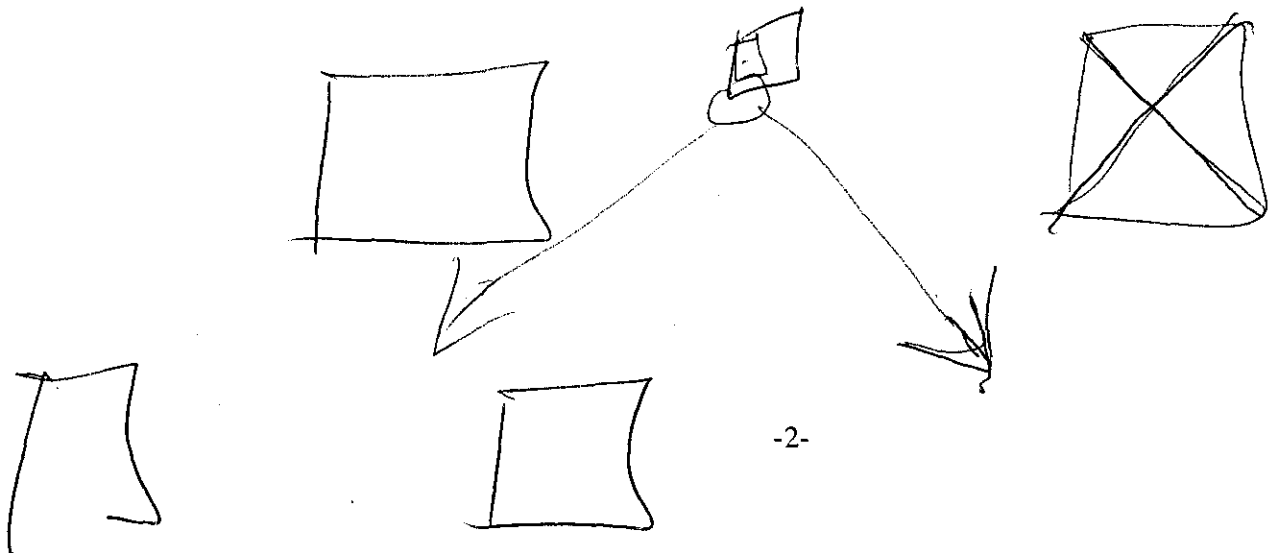
I am very pleased to welcome this report of the activities of the Nurse Education Centre for 1996. Nurse teachers have over a decade of experience in shaping a curriculum which is responsive, flexible and creative in nurse education. A radical change in the relationship between nurse education and nursing practice has been achieved by building on achievements of the Eastern Health Boards Special Hospital Care programme in implementing "Planning for the Future", (1984) later "Shaping a Healthier Future", (1994) and more recently the "Development Programme into the Next Millenium".

The continuous involvement of Senior Nursing Staff in developing programmes appropriate to the needs of staff in this new service has provided a platform for nurses to offer consistently high standards of care, as well as finding new and innovative models of practice. We are strongly committed to assisting health care professionals develop a more systematic and co-ordinated approach to patient care. Many of the centre's teaching team are involved in continuing education and training programmes throughout the Special Hospital Programme (Dublin, Wicklow and Kildare). Leadership, counselling and support skills are to the fore in maintaining a holistic approach to nurse education. Working closely with universities of higher education has created a dynamic for collaboration and accreditation of programmes which will further push out the boundaries of education and create new and expanding roles based on real and measurable outcomes.

James Walsh
Director of Nurse Education

NURSE EDUCATION CENTRE STAFF

Mr James Walsh	Director of Nurse Education
Mr Peter Boland	Nurse Tutor
Mr Mark Philbin	Nurse Tutor
Mr Kenneth Brennan	Nurse Tutor
Mr Kevin Leonard	Nurse Tutor
Mr Patrick O'Brien	Nurse Tutor
Mr Sean Sweeney	Nurse Tutor
Ms Imelda Noone	Clinical Teacher
Ms Gertie Coyle	Allocations
Ms Alice Fleming	Domestic
Mr Dermot Pollard	Audio Visual Department
Mr Salah Mesallati	Librarian
Ms Emer Bolger-Murphy	Clerk/Typist



ROLE OF THE NURSE TEACHER

Nurse Teachers at the Nurse Education Centre do not support the notion of subject separateness or the idea that subjects are "monolithic entities" in relation to the pre and post registration programmes. Alternatively subjects are perceived as social processes with contested meanings. Accordingly they endeavour to establish where possible cross links between different subjects i.e. psychology and psychiatry or sociology medicine and mental handicap.

This process enables meaningful coalitions of knowledge to emerge. This is a valuable and efficient methodology in view of the range of education programmes organised and delivered by the Nurse Education Centre.

As a consequence Nurse Teachers focus upon the greater integration and correlation of subject matter and hence adapt a greater cross curriculum, cross disciplinary approach to education i.e. psychiatric tutors input regularity and appropriately in the Mental Handicap programme and vice versa.

**BREAKDOWN
OF
PRE-REGISTRATION GROUPS**

FIRST YEAR STUDENT GROUP

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Course Co-ordinators:	Ms Gertie Coyle and Mr Peter Boland
Duration:	1996-1999 (156 weeks)
Block Programme:	40 weeks
No. of Participants:	37 (9 Males, 28 Females)
Attrition Rate:	3

It was the intention of the Eastern Health Board to secure forty students for this programme (39 students commenced on 21st October 1996). Two students dropped out during the introductory block period. This is the largest intake of student psychiatric nurses to commence training at the Nurse Education Centre in recent years.

The nine week introductory block programme was completed in December 1996 and the knowledge assessment dates have been arranged for 6th February, 22nd May and 11th September 1997. The training programme is designed to develop psychiatric nursing in a systematic and ordered way, in the belief that the psychiatric nurse of the future will play an essential role in the delivery of a professional psychiatric care service.

SECOND YEAR STUDENT GROUP

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Course Co-ordinator:	Mr Kenneth Brennan
Duration:	1995-1998 (156 weeks)
Block Programme:	40 weeks
No. of Participants:	24 (5 Males, 19 Females)
Attrition Rate:	1

The students are currently in their second year of training and are presently planning a number of events to raise funds in order to conduct a comparative study between services in the Eastern Health Board and abroad as part of optional studies.

To date 20 weeks of theoretical instruction has been delivered. 1997 will be a very busy year for this group, as most of their external placement takes place during this period i.e. General Hospital and Mental Handicap experiences.

THIRD YEAR STUDENT GROUP

Location:	Nurse Education Centre
Course Co-ordinator	Mr Mark Philbin
Duration	1994-1997 (156 weeks)
Block Programme	40 weeks
No. of Participants	25 (7 Males, 18 Females)
Attrition Rate	0

This programme has nine weeks of theoretical instruction to complete with final examinations scheduled for October 1997. Over the past year the students have been on a variety of placements in a variety of areas which included mental handicap, general hospital secondment and specialist psychiatric nursing.

A study trip to Edinburgh as part of optional studies took place in November 1996. It was a very successful learning experience. The following is a brief account of the trip.

Introduction:

Imagination is an important ingredient in psychiatric nursing practice. Every day, psychiatric nurses have to make all kinds of decisions and a capacity to effectively make decisions rests on an ability to imagine differing kinds of options.

At the Nurse Education Centre at St. Brendan's Hospital, we try to stimulate this imaginative ability of students in a number of ways. One way is through the medium of a study trip and in this brief article, a description of some of the observations that the group of twenty-five students made.

The students took the lead in organising the trip. They allocated the tasks, set the ground rules for participation and reviewed progress. They decided on the destination and aims of the trip; the topics that they were going to study and how this was going to be done; and how they were going to raise the funds for the trip. The E.H.B. Special Hospital Programme provided a small grant towards accommodation and tutor subsistence. Collaborative research has long been established as a method of action learning by student psychiatric nurses in the Eastern Health Board with previous study trips to London, Edinburgh, Amsterdam, Belfast and a memorable ten day trip to Albany, New York some years ago.

General Findings on the Trip:

The students divided into four sub-groups and went on visits that were designed to accommodate their interest in the following broad topics - care of elderly mentally ill people, child and adolescent psychiatry, drugs/HIV/AIDS services and management of care. They aimed to compare and contrast their experience of services in Edinburgh with those that they have encountered in the Eastern Health Board. The information that they accumulated on the trip is somewhat diverse but they were able to make some general points of comparison between Irish and Scottish services. These points were as follows:

Nurse Education and Training:

Walking into Napier University on the Comely Bank Campus one immediately recognised the potential for the integration of nursing courses under the one roof.

A nursing culture was evident and showed the benefits of the integration of programmes in Mental Health, Adult, Childrens, and Mental Handicap Nursing. Regrettably time did not allow for discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of higher education for nursing but provision of infrastructural resources, such as libraries, computing facilities, catering, teaching accommodation and information technology to the forefront of modern nurse education was much to be admired. Our own E.H.B. march into new technology with one C.I.N.A.H.L. system for over a hundred users is something which will require considerable funding if the bright new world of information technology is to be exploited. The cost of integration into higher education requires careful analysis and screening by both the University and the Health Board. Purchasing of consumer driven courses are an integral part of the successful change strategy in nurse education.

Research and Teaching:

The effective delivery of research and teaching is facilitated by Napier University with staff encouraged to negotiate funding for research which reflects local, and regional priorities. Sufficient human resources are available to support those who elect to focus the major part of their time in designing and carrying out research projects and publishing the findings used to reconcile the potentially conflicting work loads of teaching, clinical practice and research.

There are substantial differences in the way services are structured:

In Edinburgh, as in the rest of the United Kingdom, the mental health services are part of the 'internal market' within the National Health Service. This involves a separation of the purchase and provision of health services. In Edinburgh, the main purchaser of mental health care is Mid-Lothian Health Authority which buys a mental health service on behalf of the local community. The main provider of this service is Edinburgh Health Care NHS Trust who need to meet the requirements of the purchasing authority or risk a potential loss of funding.

Less progress has been made in Edinburgh towards a community orientated mental health service than in the Eastern Health Board:

On our first impressions, we were struck by how well resourced the Edinburgh mental health service seemed to be. The Royal Edinburgh Hospital, which is an old psychiatric hospital, is very well furnished and some of the specialist units have very high staffing levels. Substantial investment has been made in information technology with, for example, every community psychiatric nurse carrying a lap-top computer. Yet it seemed to us that community mental health services are relatively poorly resourced. The community psychiatric nurses are small in number and the community alcohol service is limited to two nurses for the whole of the city. The Royal Edinburgh hospital has 600 in-patient beds and still has a long way to go in areas of rehabilitation and resettlement.

The work of practitioners from different disciplines is more closely integrated in Edinburgh:

The different professional disciplines, involved in mental health care, appear to be less demarcated in Edinburgh than in the Irish context. This was evident in several ways. At a managerial level, services are led by general managers who are responsible for the whole service and who come from a range of professional backgrounds. Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, support staff and so on share the same managers and there is no upper tier of nursing management. Ward managers, who in the future may not necessarily be nurses, are responsible for all the staff who work on the ward and many manage the overall budget for their wards. There is also an emphasis on multi-disciplinary working in the way care is documented. Multi-disciplinary case notes have recently been introduced to the Trust and all professional staff, including doctors who have eschewed keeping separate medical notes, use them.

The Benefit for Students:

In going on the trip and in its immediate aftermath, we have encouraged the students to reflect on their experiences. In particular, we have invited them to consider the implications of what they have observed for their understanding of the Eastern Health Board mental health services and their future practice as psychiatric nurses. They will present their reflections on these matters, in a series of seminars next February, to as large an audience of staff as possible. We hope that the process of piecing together their thoughts about the trip will help the students to become imaginative practitioners in the future. As suggested at the beginning of the article, imaginative practitioners are those who can think of alternatives and then make informed choices. The study trip will potentially be one ingredient in these students professional experiences that enables them to make such choices. The cohesiveness and team spirit that was evident throughout the study trip by the maturity and commitment to achieve the goals of the exercise. Those who were making their first visit to Edinburgh were impressed by the hospitality, the magnificent city and the historical castle. The trip would be incomplete without sampling the city delights Christmas shopping and social activities in true Irish tradition. All those who in any way supported the study trip are to be congratulated especially family and friends, husbands and wives left at home worrying about loved ones. Seeing another service at work especially with the confidence and competence, professional psychiatric nurses showed in a variety of settings and age groups was very satisfying and reassuring. Learning to let go of controls while remaining accountable was a challenge made easy by the awareness and self direction which the entire group of students showed throughout the study trip. The issues of personal benefit, service benefit and patient benefit will continue to be explored and reflected upon.

FINALIST GROUP 1996

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Course Co-ordinator:	Mr Kevin Leonard
Duration:	1993-1996 (156 weeks)
Block Programme:	40 weeks
No. of Participants:	24 (8 Males, 16 Females)
Attrition Rate:	1

Twenty-four student psychiatric nurses completed the three year programme, twenty sat the final examinations set by An Bord Altranais in October 1996 and the remaining four candidates will sit for their finals in February 1997. The results were as follows:

No. of Candidates who Passed	No. of Candidates who Received Honours	No. of Candidates who Failed
16	1	3 (Two failed one paper and one failed both Papers)

The successful candidates are now registered on the Psychiatric Division of the Nurses Register and are employed by the Eastern Health Board.

**BREAKDOWN
OF
POST REGISTRATION GROUPS**

MENTAL HANDICAP COURSE

Location:	Nurse Education Centre /St. Ita's Hospital Portrane
Co-ordinators:	Mr Peter Boland and Mr Sean Sweeney
Duration:	1995-1997 (78 weeks)
Block Programme:	20 weeks
No. of Participants:	12 (4 Males, 8 Females)
Attrition Rate:	0

At present, sixty-six weeks of the programme has been completed, five weeks of theoretical instruction remain with final examinations due to take place in May 1997.

Mr Sean Sweeney has played a very active role in developing a Certificate Course for Care Staff in St. Ita's Hospital. At present, a 52 hour course duration is in progress, with twenty participants. The course includes an overview of the concept of mental handicap, its' causes and prevention and the priorities in education and training of care of people with a mental handicap. This is a continuous programme.

POST- REGISTRATION PSYCHIATRIC NURSING COURSE

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Co-ordinators:	Kevin Leonard and Gertie Coyle
Duration:	1996-1997 (78 weeks)
Block Programme:	20 weeks
No. of Participants:	14 (6 Males, 8 Females)
Attrition Rate:	0

This group commenced the eighteen month training programme in April 1996. To date eleven weeks of the block programme has been completed.

This is the first, post registration course in in the Eastern Health Board since 1991. The participants have background in general and mental handicap nursing. The participants have allocated to the staffing establishment of the Chief Nursing Officers (from which funding for the course derived).

Final examinations for this group will be held in October 1997.

DIPLOMA IN CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC NURSING

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Co-ordinators:	Mr James Walsh and Mr Martin Ruane
Duration:	1996-1997
Block Programme:	Academic Year
No. of Participants:	7 (5 Females, 2 Males)
Attrition Rate:	0

The first national post-registration certificate course in Child and Adolescent psychiatric nursing commenced in the Nurse Education Centre in October 1992. The course was of one academic year's duration and was accorded Category II status by An Bord Altranais. A total of twenty-five (100%) students were successful in the examinations between 1992 and 1995. In 1994, links were established with the Muhimbili Medical Centre, Department of Psychiatry, Dar As Salam, Tanzania as a result of which one student was seconded and fully funded through the Department of Foreign Affairs to undertake the course. She successfully graduated in July 1995 and the Tanzania authorities are keen to second further students who may be suitable for future courses.

In 1996 it was decided to up grade this course to University Diploma level. Accordingly, work commenced on the preparation of a validation proposal document for the course which was submitted and ratified by the University in May 1996.

This was followed by the preparation and submission of a substantial document for the Accreditation Board of the University submitted in June 1996. The course was given provisional accreditation subject to considerable modifications to the curriculum outline. This was completed and in October 1996, seven students, commenced the course. They are registered as students of the University and have access to a full range of facilities there.

Research Project:

During 1996 a retrospective evaluation of the course from its' inception in 1992 to 1994 (N = 17), took place. The project was undertaken by the course co-ordinator, Mr Pat O'Brien, Tutor and Ms Myra Barry Senior Clinical Psychologist. The purpose of the study was essentially to ascertain the views of nurses who had been through the first two years of the course in terms of its perceived impact on their professionalism, knowledge base and clinical practice.

The results, which were disseminated within the Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Services and discussed at multi-disciplinary clinical meetings and conferences, indicated a reasonable level of satisfaction in most areas relating to practice, skill and role. The majority concluded that the course had made a significant difference in terms of their perceived improvement in clinical practice in addition to substantially improving their professional confidence.

SECONDED STUDENTS

SECONDED STUDENTS

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board
Co-ordinators.	Mr Kevin Leonard and Gertie Coyle
Duration:	Six weeks
Block Programme:	One Week

During 1996, 273 General Student Nurses came to the Nurse Education Centre for psychiatric experience. This experience is necessary to meet the criteria as laid down by An Bord Altranais.

The theoretical input is forty hours with clinical experience 195 hours. Each student has to complete a comprehensive nursing case study and present it to a Tutor and fellow students. All students are visited while on clinical placement by a member of the Centre' tutorial staff.

Six General Hospitals use the Nurse Education Centre for psychiatric secondment. There are as follows:

Hospital	No. of Students
Beaumont	102
Meath	49
Adelaide	39
James Connolly Memorial Hospital	20
St. James's Hospital	48
Stewart's Hospital	15
Total	273

Reports on performance while on secondment are forwarded to the students parent hospital.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC NURSING COURSE

Location:	Central Mental Hospital
Co-ordinators:	Mr Kenneth Brennan Nurse Tutor Mr Tom Clare A.C.N.O. Mr Michael Bambrick A.C.N.O.
Duration:	30 weeks (April - November)
Status:	Category II, An Bord Altranais
No. of Participants:	16
Attrition Rate:	0

The Forensic Psychiatric Nursing course is a unique development in response to continuing change in the Central Mental Hospital forensic services. The broad aim of the course is to create a therapeutic environment which meets the needs of the clients and to facilitate personal and professional development of all course participants. The structure of the course consisted of thirty weeks which was subsequently divided into two clinical placements and eight weeks of theoretical instruction.

Participants considered six themes namely:

- (1) Nursing practice in forensic psychiatry
- (2) Multidisciplinary Approaches
- (3) Law
- (4) Clinical Forensic Psychiatry
- (5) Statutory and Voluntary Organisations
- (6) Field Visits

Course Assessments comprised of a book review, case study, critique of a journal article, literature review and a final written examination. Furthermore, those lecturers who contributed to the course represented a wide range of specialist disciplines. All participants were successful and it is envisaged that a future course will take place in 1998.



REHABILITATION - WORKING WITH THE LONG-TERM MENTALLY ILL COURSE

Location:	St. Ita's Hospital
Co-ordinators:	Mr Kenneth Brennan Nurse Tutor Ms Catherine McTiernan A.C.N.O.
Duration:	October 1996 - June 1997
Status:	Category I, An Bord Altranais
No. of Participants:	20
Attrition Rate:	0

The course was delivered following an educational needs assessment and support from the staff development forum. The aim of the course is to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes of the participants which are working in the hospital and community nursing services in area 8. Five modules underpin the course including:

- ◆ Nursing Studies - e.g. Psychoeducation, Sexuality, Compliance, Advocacy.
- ◆ Rehabilitation Studies - e.g. Normalization, Quality of Life, Rating Scales.
- ◆ Psychotherapeutic Studies - e.g. Group Therapy, Solution Focused Therapy, Social Skills Training.
- ◆ Mental Illness Studies - e.g. Epidemiology, Homelessness, Recidivism.
- ◆ Creative and Expressive Therapy Studies - e.g. Art, Drama, Aromatherapy.

Course assignments are based on completing a Case Study, Literature Review and Critical Incidents. The course is currently been piloted in St. Ita's Hospital and it is expected that accreditation from a third level institution may occur in the near future.

The course has recently commenced at St. Brendans Hospital under the guidance of Mr. J. Buckley CNO and Dr. A. Mohan, Medical Director and a planning team which draws on the expert advice of Professor P. Barker, University of Dundee.

MENTORING COURSE

Location:	Nurse Education Centre
Co-ordinators:	Mr Peter Boland and Mr Aidan Lawlor
Duration:	90 Hours
No. of Participants:	8
Status:	Certificate at Present, application made for Category I approval by An Bord Altranais.
Attrition Rate:	0

The purpose of this course is to prepare nurses working in the area of Learning Disability and Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing with the appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes congruent with competent mentoring practice. This programme dovetails into all pre and post registration course run by the Nurse Education Centre.

The course supports the centrality of the practicum in Nurse Education. It is innovative in that it is underpinned by Andragogy, hence it supports the "coopting" of the learners purpose in the Education process. The course themes of mentoring, reflective practice, change, assessment, counselling, collaborative practice and teaching and learning in the clinical area are explored from the perspective of the participants. The justification for this approach is to allow the programme to emerge from the experiences of knowledge of participants and co-ordinators. At present the pilot course (October 1996) is being evaluated. It is the intention of the Nurse Education Centre to offer the programme to clinical staff in a more generalized way in 1997.



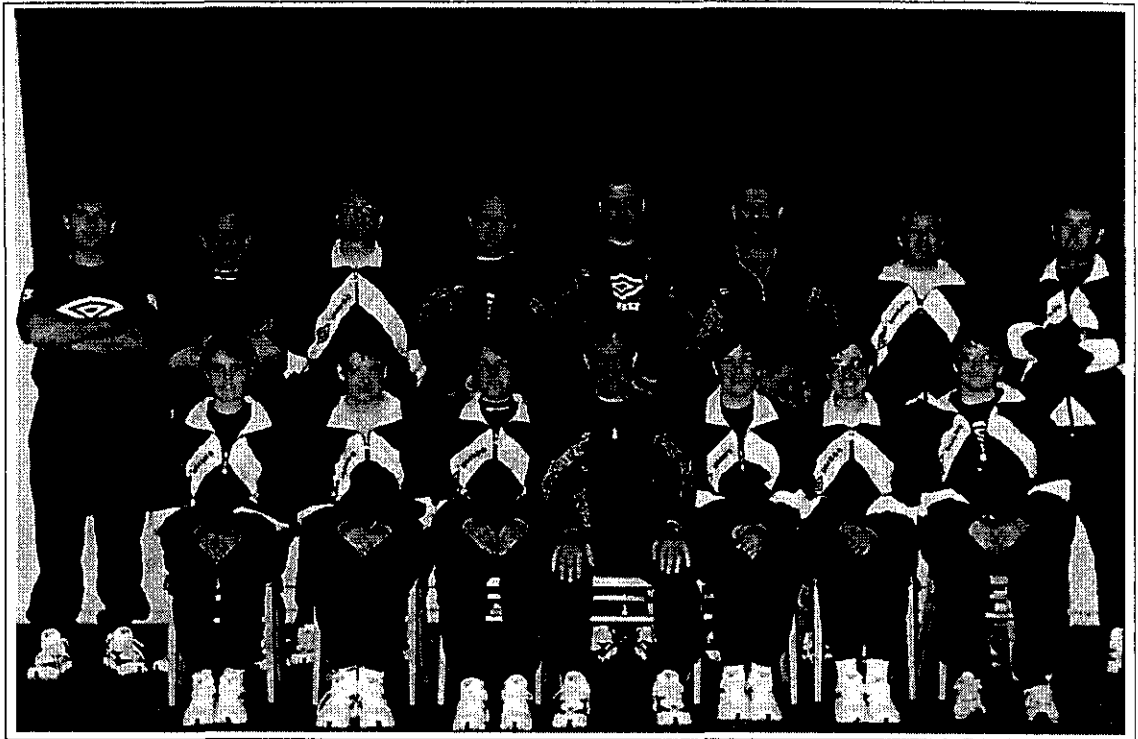
*Pictured at the recent Presentation of Certificates to Participants on the Mentoring Course
Back Row (L to R) Aidan Lawlor, Course Co-ordinator, Brian Carbury, Eamon Sweeney, Joe Egan, Martin
Durkan, Ann Pritchard. Front Row (l to R) Peter Boland, Course Co-Ordinator, James Walsh, Director of
Nurse Education, Ann Weir, Grainne Bray and Bernadette Williams.*

PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION

Location:	Nurse Education Centre
Co-ordinators:	Mr James Walsh and Mr Tommy Kelleher
Duration:	6 Months (April - September)
No. of Participants:	17 (11 Males, 6 Female)
Attrition Rate:	3

A first home grown six months instructors course was completed in 1996 for seventeen staff primarily from the Special Hospital Programme to implement a training strategy for all staff at risk.

The aim of the course was to build on the Health Strategy in a pro-active way by getting staff trained in the management of aggression and violence. This included exploring the risks posed to health care workers whether in hospital or community settings. Included in the training was prevention through enhanced communication among all grades of staff and agencies involved in total patient care. It involved using guidelines and protocols to promote best practice and ensure consistency of approach. Intervention in the form of de-escalation techniques, skills in handling conflict and anger was a central part of the course. Staff training in identifying triggers and factors of increased risk, reaction to personal attack systems and emergency responses were also developed.



Participants on the Management of Violence and Agression Instructors Course

Back Row (L to R) John Manton, William Doyle, Ficara McGuirk, Michael Maguire, Michael Kelly, Pat Wilkinson, Tom Marshall, Declan Lavery. Front Row (L or R) Selena Loughman, Grainne Devlin, Eileen Kelly, James Walsh, Director of Nurse Education, Julia Nelligan, Bernie O'Connor and Cathy Daniels. Missing from Photograph: Michael Dwyer, (Newcastle), William Noone, (Ballybun), and Tom Kelleher, Co-ordinator.

CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR COURSE (1995-1996)

Location:	Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board Psychiatric, Mental Handicap and Child and Adolescent Nursing Services.
Co-ordinators:	Mr Mark Philbin and Mr Peter Boland
Duration:	Two weeks block (27 study days)
Status:	Category I, An Bord Altranais
No. of Participants:	11 (3 Male, 8 Female)
Attrition Rate:	0

The course participants were chosen from the Child and Adolescent, Adult Psychiatry and Mental Handicap Nursing Services. The course aims through action learning to explore the main elements of a alternative approach to care for persons exhibiting Challenging Behaviour. The group choose to collate a booklet on reflective practice as part of the terminal assessment process. This booklet is being printed at present and will be available from the Nurse Education Centre at a minimal charge.

This programme has been very successful over the past four years however, because of pressure of resources the course for 1996/97 will be co-ordinated by Mr Ben Norohna, Assistant Chief Nursing Officer. The Nurse Education Centre wish Ben every success with this endeavour.

DIPLOMA IN FIRST LINE MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR REGISTERED NURSES

Location:	Nurse Education Centre - Outreach Centre for National College of Industrial Relations with N.C.E.A. Access Credits
Co-ordinators:	Mr James Walsh and Ms Catherine McTiernan
Duration:	September - June (Each Tuesday 6.00-8.00pm, Every Second Tuesday, 2.00-8.00pm)
No. of Participants:	40 (9 Male, 31 Female)
Attrition Rate:	0

Following a needs analysis conducted at St. Ita's Psychiatric Services in 1992 a foundation course in First Line Management was started. The successful running of this course centrally was followed by discussion with the National College of Industrial Relations in Ranelagh leading to external accreditation as an outreach facility. In line with current trends in service re-structuring, equity, quality, accountability and cost effectiveness the course has been reshaped to cover core modules in supervision, leadership, motivation, interviewing/appraisal, problem solving and team work and communication.

The course is highly popular with participants coming from all disciplines of nursing including non Eastern Health Board Nurses. The cost of the course has been reduced significantly since off campus lectures are mainly Eastern Health Board employees accredited to academic council. The full range of N.C.I.R. facilities enables participants to avail of library and information service.

CARDIO PULMONARY RESUSCITATION COURSE

During 1996 the two co-ordinators of the course Ms Gertie Coyle and Ms Annette Kenny facilitated total of fifteen, one day courses on Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and Foreign Bodies Airways Obstruction to the staff of area 6 and Nurse Education Centre. (Student Nurses included). In total 160 staff availed of the programme.

Two additional five, half-day refresher courses took place, where thirty-four staff were re-assessed for clinical proficiency.

LINKS WITH THE FACULTY OF NURSING, ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS - A CO-OPERATIVE VENTURE

During the Academic Year 1994/95 A collaborative venture between the Nurse Education Centre and the faculty of Nursing took place. Following negotiations between the R.C.S.I., the Programme Manager (Special Hospitals) and the Director of Nurse Education, Mr Pat O'Brien, was seconded on a part-time basis as lecturer. The arrangement was half-time with the Eastern Health Board and half-time with the R.C.S.I. with funding being equally shared.

This collaboration continued informally during the academic year 1995/96 and involved the teaching of nursing theory to Diploma in Management Students and the newly established B.N.S. (Clinical) Course. It also involved lectures to the Orthopaedic Diploma Course on teaching and learning plus the design and running of a short course in essential counselling skills for general nurses.

The venture is an important relationship between the Nurse Education Centre and R.C.S.I., which proved to be mutually advantageous. It was one of the first links (albeit part-time and temporary) between a traditional psychiatric nursing school and a university Department of Nursing in this country.

**NURSE EDUCATION CENTRE
FACILITIES**

THE LIBRARY

During 1996 there has been the continual development and up-grading of the Library. A second CINAHL site came on line in June 1996. This has greatly enhanced the research and development opportunities provided to users. Current awareness information packages are available on request to the Librarian, Mr Salah Mesallati.

The library subscribes to forty-seven periodicals spanning the areas of

- ◆ Nursing - General, Psychiatric and Learning Disabilities.
- ◆ Psychiatry
- ◆ Psychology
- ◆ Sociology
- ◆ Management
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Research

New periodicals are on order for 1997 include the following Journals:

- ◆ Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- ◆ Occupational Therapy
- ◆ Forensic Psychiatry

The library is managed by a multidisciplinary committee under the Chairmanship of Mr Richard Bennett, Chief Nursing Officer. There are plans in 1997 to expand the reading room space in the library by moving to Room 5. This will occur when two extra lecture rooms are made available through the renovation of the back of the conference centre.

AUDIO VISUAL DEPARTMENT

The Nurse Education Centre's Audio Visual Department contributes immensely to the provision of quality educational programmes to our students and others.

A rich resource of audio visual reference material is available on a variety of clinical conditions. The Department is run very competently by Mr Dermot Pollard who in addition regularly prepares slides and acetates for medical, administration and tutorial staff.

CONFERENCE CENTRE

The Conference Centre has the seating capacity for up to 400 people. There is little doubt that conference presentation enhances the advancement of knowledge and expertise. The facility has been used extensively throughout 1996 for conferences and to facilitate the Eastern Health Board's training section, the latter would include education and training and meetings for the following:-

- Public Health Nurses
- Community Welfare Officers
- Computer Training for Social Workers
- Continence Promotion
- Addiction Counsellors
- Psychology Department
- Strategic Management
- Parenting Skills Presentation

The facility has also been used for seminars, workshops, examinations and as an overflow when classroom facilities are booked out. An estimate number of people who have used the Nurse Education Centre/Conference Centre in 1996 is approximately 5,000. This would include:-

- Student Psychiatric Nurses
- Student General Nurses
- Conference run by A.A.P.N.
- Eastern Health Board Research Conference
- Prevention and Management of Aggression and Violence Instructors Course.
- Schizophrenia Association of Ireland
- Drugs and Aids Service in-service Education
- Mentoring Group

The facility is used in the evening time by a number of groups from the local community i.e.

- The Parents and Friends of the Mentally Handicapped
- Staff and Patients Bowling Club
- Theatre Groups in particular Astra where the facility is used for rehearsals of theatre productions.

The centre is used on a regular basis by the Blood Transfusion Service.

VISITING STUDENTS

The Nurse Education Centre has over the years facilitated the education experience of student nurses from both home and abroad. In 1996 this included:-

- One student from Ealing University who spent two weeks with the Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board Areas.
- One Student from Saudi Arabia who spent twelve weeks with the Nurse Education and Eastern Health Board Areas.
- Sixteen students and three tutors from Liverpool who spent one week with us.
- Two Tutors from Finland visited our services
- Thirty-five visiting students from St. Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park.

Support for Potential Student Nurses:

Each year the Nurse Education Centre supports requests from potential student nurses, inquiring about careers in psychiatric care. The Nurse Education Centre staff assist such individuals, providing them with information, support and a chance to visit clinical areas of practice.



Shirley A Smoyak R.N. P.H.D. faculty of planning and Health care policy -- the state university of New Jersey on a recent visit to St. Brendans and Nurse Education Centre pictured with her husband Peter, Kevin Leonard, Jim Walsh, Salah Mellisati and Pat O' Brien.

REPORT OF
AN BORD ALTRANAIS
INSPECTION

AN BORD ALTRANAIS INSPECTION

In line with the continuing development of the Eastern Health Board Psychiatric Service, the Nurse Education Centre requested that two units within the service should be inspected so that student psychiatric nurses might be assigned there. The units in question were (a) The special care units, St. Brendan's Hospital (Four units in total). (b) The Child Psychiatric Unit, Stillorgan.

It was proposed to allocate students to these areas on a supernumerary basis. The Inspectors recommended approval for the allocation of second and third year students nurses to both areas. The inspectors clarified the issue relating to new services that come on stream which is a welcome development. In future, in relation to new services, rather than undergoing a total inspection of all areas the Nurse Education Centre should simply make direct contact with An Bord Altranais, requesting an inspection of that specific unit.

In effect, this means that over 110 clinical placement units for experience in acute psychiatric nursing, day hospital, day centres, hostels, workshops, units for continuing care, elderly care units and specialists therapy units are available for students in Newcastle hospital, St. Loman's, St. Ita's, St. Brendan's, Kildare and Vergemont Psychiatric Service.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIONS

In the absence of a Central Management Committee at the Nurse Education Centre, Nurse Tutors have been working assiduously at local educational committee level. The Educational Committee is structured on recommendations laid down by An Bord Altranais as a necessary prerequisite in all training areas. The aim of the Committee is to address educational issues for both student nurses and qualified nurses.

Nurse Tutor Representatives are as follows:

AREA	TUTOR
2	Mr Kenneth Brennan
4	Mr Pat O'Brien
6	Mr Mark Philbin
8	Mr Kenneth Brennan (Psychiatry) Mr Peter Boland (Mental Handicap) Mr Sean Sweeney (Mental Handicap)
St. Brendan's	Mr Kevin Leonard
Newcastle	Mr James Walsh

RETIREMENT
OF
MR MICHAEL MCGUIRK

Mr Michael McGuirk retired in August 1996 having had a distinguished career in the nursing profession. He commenced with the Eastern Health Board in 1980 as a member of the Tutorial staff in St. Ita's Hospital having previously worked in St. Patrick's Hospital, St. James's Hospital and considerable service in the U.K.

Michael played a pivotal role in the development of the Central School of Nursing in particular he participated in undergraduate training, in-service training and co-ordinated a specialized course for the prison services. Furthermore, Michael maintained his relationship with St. Ita's Hospital through supervision of student nurses in the clinical areas and in the establishment of the Nurse Education Committee. All staff in the Nurse Education Centre wish Michael the very best of luck on his retirement.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1996

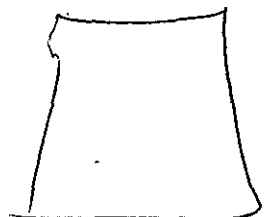
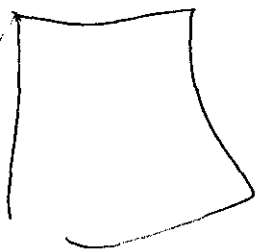
ACHIEVEMENTS OF 1996

- Establishing links with Dublin City University via the Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing Programme was the major achievement of 1996.
- Establishment of an instructors training course in the Management of Violence and Aggression.
- Commencement of work in renovating the back of the Conference Centre to facilitate an increase in classroom space.
- Commencement of a pilot mentoring programme.
- Re Commencement of the Post-Graduate Psychiatric Nursing Programme.

GOALS FOR 1997

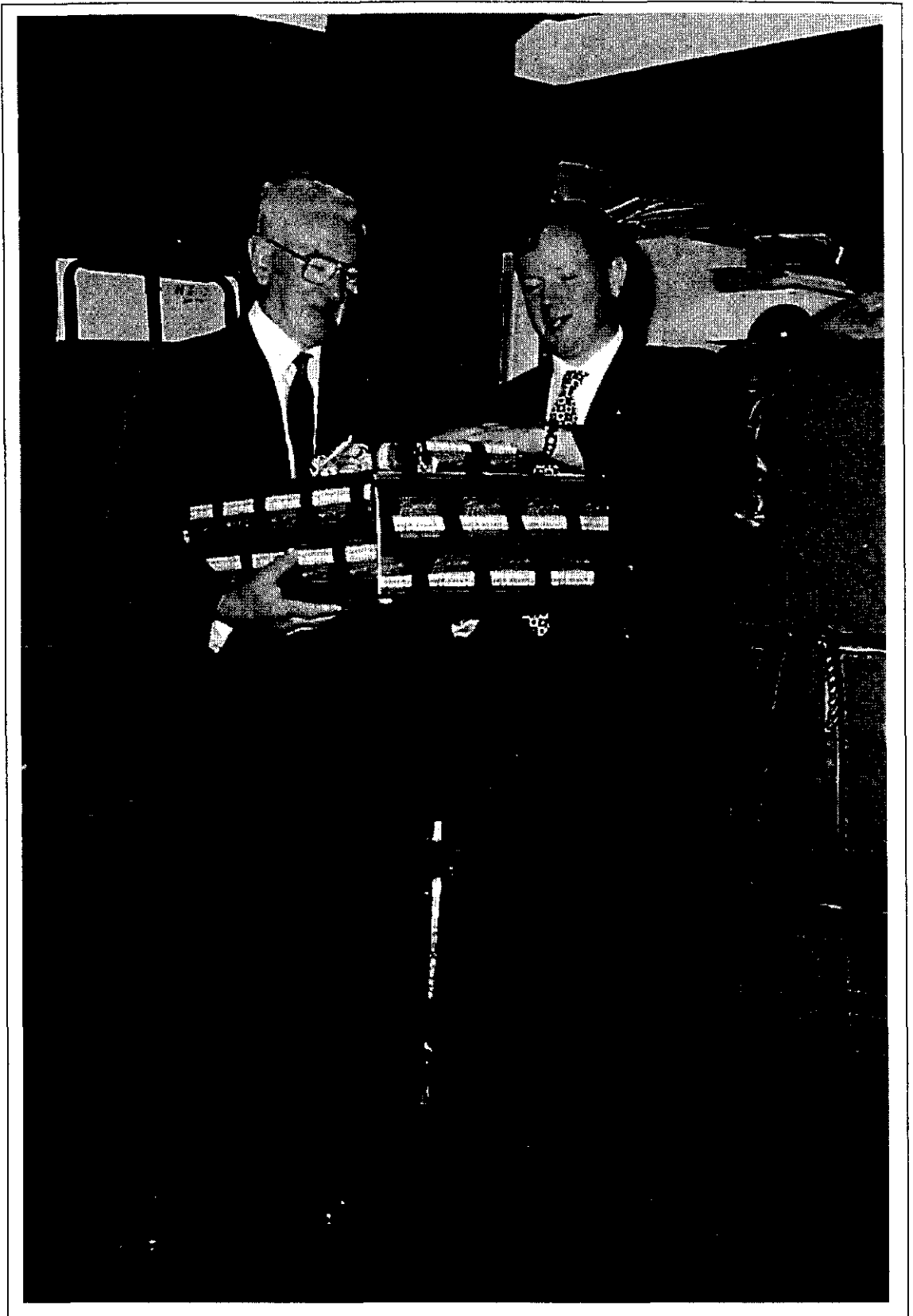
GOALS FOR 1997

- ◆ Further conjoint development with Dublin City University to build upon the Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing Programme in order to secure an over arching framework for post-registration courses at Diploma and Degree level.
- ◆ Development of pre registration psychiatric nursing diploma curriculum to meet the criteria of the Accreditation/Validation Board of Dublin City University and Trinity College Dublin.
- ◆ ✓ To organise a fourth post registration Mental Handicap Nursing Programme. ✕
- ◆ To develop pre registration Mental Handicap Nursing Programme linked to D.C.U.
- ◆ To increase tutors numbers and to review the structure and staff mix for the various Nurse Education Centre educational programme. ✕
- ◆ To further develop computer services i.e. Modem/Fax link to D.C.U. Modem link to Internet. To install new P.C. sites for staff and students.
- ◆ To establish an Educational Management Committee for the Nurse Education Centre.
- ◆ To support Eastern Health Board Training Section in the design of staff educational packages.
- ◆ Expansion of the Mentoring Programme.
- ◆ To continue to upgrade the tutor/student facilities at the Nurse Education Centre.



CONGRATULATIONS

- ◆ Congratulations to Mr James Walsh, Director of Nurse Education conferred in 1996 with Masters in Education/Management from Dublin City University.
- ◆ Congratulations to Mr Sean Sweeney, Nurse Tutor, conferred in 1996 with Masters in Education from University College Dublin.
- ◆ Congratulations to Mr Peter Boland, Nurse Tutor on passing second year Masters in Education with the Open University.
- ◆ Congratulations to Mr Kenneth Brennan, Nurse Tutor on passing first year Masters in Education with the Open University.
- ◆ Congratulations to Imelda Noone for passing second year examinations in Batcholor Nursing Studies, University College Dublin.
- ◆ Congratulations to Ms Alice Fleming for outstanding service achievement of 20 years service to the Nurse Education Centre and Eastern Health Board.
- ◆ Congratulations to Agatha Lawless on achieving the Gold Medal for highest combined marks in both the House and State final examinations.
- ◆ Congratulations to Deirdre Brassil, Nursing Officer, Lakeview Unit, Naas, for achieving joint Eastern Health Board/National College of Industrial Relations award for distinction in Diploma in First Line Management Course (1996).



Mr Michael McGuirk being presented with his 'farewell gift' by Mr James Walsh, Director of Nurse Education.



Pictured at the recent N.C.I.R. Graduation Ceremony to students on the Diploma in First Line Management Course at the R.D.S.

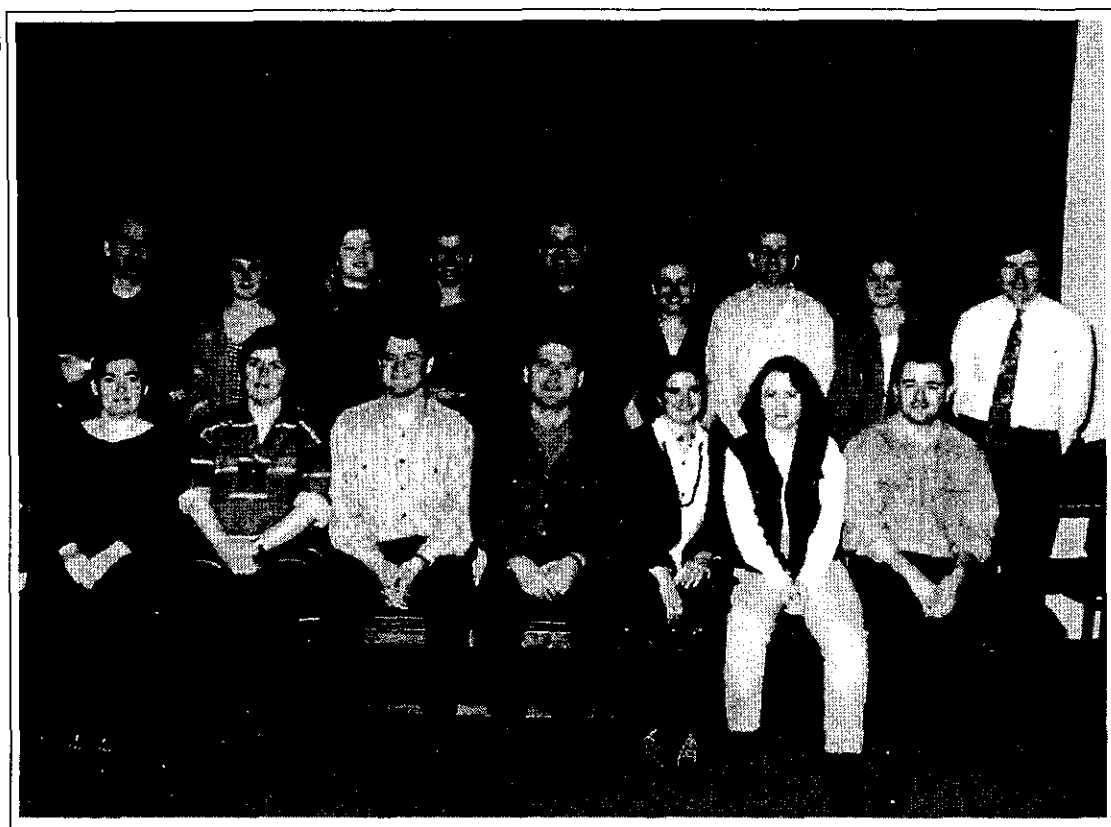
Back Row (L to R) Cathleen Hartnett, N.C.I.R., Deirdre Brassil, Naas, Martin Bray, St. Ita's, Celestine Morrison, Meath, Jerry Quigley, Forensic Service, Kitty Corbett, J.C.M.H., Mona Deering, Naas, Kay O'Keeffe, J.C.M.H. and Mr James Walsh, Director of Nurse Education. Front Row (L to R) Liz O'Connell, Meath, Bríd Dervan, J.C.M.H., Geraldine Whyte, Meath, Bernadette Lyons, Meath and Professor Joyce O'Connor, N.C.I.R.



Pictured at the presentation of badges and certificates by Cllr. Roisin Shortall, T.D., Chairperson, Eastern Health Board and P.J. Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Health Board, Agatha Lawless, Gold Medalist for highest combined marks in both the House and State Final Examinations.



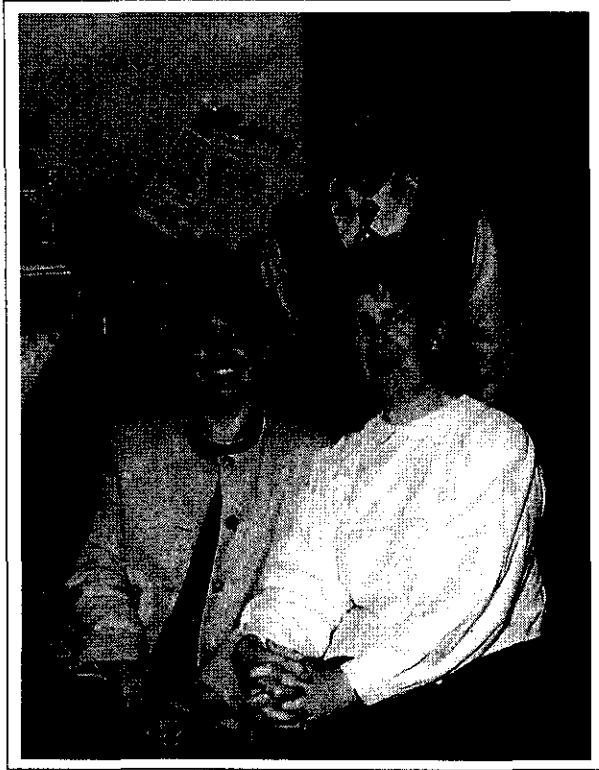
Pictured left, at the Presentation of Certificate and badges to nurses in the Nurse Education Centre, Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Health Board, Staff Nurse Cathriona Furlong and Cllr. Roisín Shorthall TD., Chairperson, Eastern Health Board.



Pat O'Brian and The Post Registration Psychiatric Nursing Group 1995-97.



Pictured right, at the Presentation of Certificate and badges to nurses in the Nurse Education Centre, Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Health Board, Staff Nurse Mary McCarthy and Cllr. Roisín Shorthall TD., Chairperson, Eastern Health Board.



Pictured left, Peter Boland, Emer Bolger and Gertie Coyle



Pictured right, at the Presentation of Certificate and badges to nurses in the Nurse Education Centre, Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Health Board, Mr. Stephen Monaghan Staff Nurse and Cllr. Roisín Shorthall TD., Chairperson, Eastern Health Board.