

## CGFNS Launches New Online Multiple Report System

CGFNS is pleased to announce the addition of its Online Multiple Report System, OMRS, to the CGFNS website ([www.cgfns.org](http://www.cgfns.org)). CGFNS conducted a pilot program of its online reporting system from October 2003 to February 2004 with a representative group of users who have multiple clients who are applicants for CGFNS' programs.

The OMRS authorizes a third party to receive an individual recipients status information and is a complementary service designated for employers, hospitals, immigration attorneys who are managing multiple clients. The applicant can revoke third party authorization with a mailed or written request to CGFNS.

The OMRS includes those applying for VisaScreen™, Credentials Evaluation Service, Certification Program, and the New York Credentials Verification Service.

The OMRS allows the authorized designated party to access the status of all their applicants in one report. The report provides information on all programs for each applicant until thirty (30) days after the completion of the service.

This report negates the necessity of entering separate inquiries for each applicant. Each OMRS user must complete an enrollment form and receive its own username

and password. Those with the designated username and password can only view their specific applicants' information. Authorization of a third party as a recipient of status information does not preclude the applicant's maintenance of his/her own individual username and password or checking his/her individual status.

Employers, hospitals, immigration attorneys or recruiters who are managing multiple clients may enroll in the CGFNS Online Multiple Report System by completing the two forms, both available on the CGFNS website, [www.cgfns.org](http://www.cgfns.org):

- The Enrollment Form for the Online Multiple Report System
- Third Party Authorization to Release Information

The OMRS is just one of the initiatives CGFNS has implemented to facilitate communications with applicants, health care recruiters and employers.

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## CGFNS awards 2004 IDLA to Kirsten Stallknecht

The Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) is pleased to announce this year's recipient of the CGFNS International Distinguished Leadership Award (IDLA): Kirsten Elisabeth Stallknecht, RN, Past President of the International Council of Nurses and Past President of the Danish Nurses Organisation.

Mrs. Stallknecht embodies the spirit of the CGFNS award, which recognizes and honors outstanding international, professional and personal achievement in an individual who serves as a model for success in the health care community. She will be honored with a commemorative plaque, a sponsored symposium in her

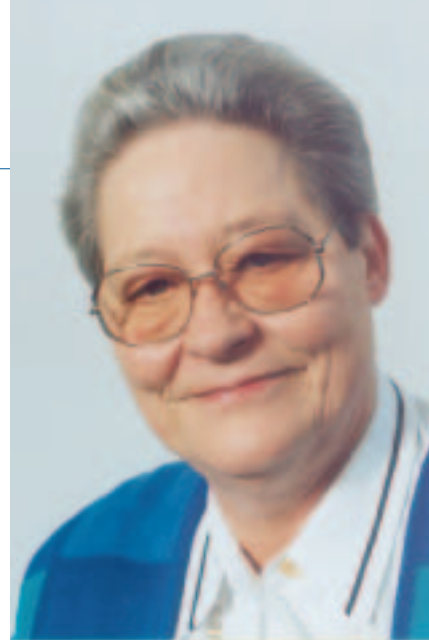
area of leadership, and a reception and tribute dinner the evening of the symposium, December 8, 2004.

Mrs. Stallknecht is a distinguished leader, teacher and mentor. She has been a consistent, articulate advocate for professional nursing and quality care. Her belief that collective action of and for nurses and their patients has resulted in a world wide, two-fold outcome—provision of high quality care for the patient and professional integrity of the nurse. As a former president of the International Council of Nurses, these beliefs have influenced nursing globally.

She was President of the Danish Nurses' Organization from 1968-1996 and has held numerous positions and honorary offices with the

Federation of Danish Civil Servants' and Salaried Employees' Organization, the Northern Nurses' Federation, the Board of School of Advanced Nursing Education, the Danish Institute for Health and Nursing Research, the Danish Board of Technology, the International Council of Nurses, the Danish Nursing History Foundation, the Advisory Group for Nursing and Midwifery in WHO, the American Nurses Credential Center, and other notable health care, government, and business organizations.

She has taken study visits to the USSR, China, United States of America, Japan, and Nordic countries. She was honored for outstanding services to the Danish health



system and the Danish nurses in 1995.

Mrs. Stallknecht will be presented with the 2004 CGFNS International Distinguished Leadership Award (IDLA) on December 8, 2004, in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

**CGFNS congratulates Mrs. Stallknecht on this honor in recognition of her remarkable career in nursing and the international healthcare community.**

### About this newsletter

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### CGFNS Re-opens Exam Center in Cochin, India

The Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) is pleased to announce that it is re-opening the exam center to conduct its Qualifying Exam for nurses in Cochin, India, beginning with the November 10, 2004 exam.

The exam will be administered by Dr. Jacob Chacko, who previously administered the exam on behalf of Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT). CGFNS wishes to thank CUSAT for its previous work in administering the exam, and to express its appreciation to NORKA, the Non-Resident Keralites Affairs, for its continued support and cooperation. CGFNS looks forward to continuing to provide opportunities to the nurses of Kerala.

CGFNS administers its Qualifying Exam four times each year for nurses educated outside the United States who wish to practice nursing in the U.S. The exams are offered at over 40 locations worldwide in March, July, September and November.

The exam center in Cochin will be open for the November 10, 2004 exam and all exams thereafter. The exam center number for the Cochin location is **851**.

Applicants wishing to sit for the November 10, 2004 Qualifying Exam in Cochin, India, or any exam thereafter, should designate the exam center 851 on their Certification Program application. The deadline for new applications is August 11, and September 8 for re-applications.



## CGFNS Designated Trinidad and Tobago as 212 (r) Countries and Michigan as a 212 (r) State

**S**ection 212 (r) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act allows, in limited situations, the issuance of a “Certified Statement” as an alternative process in lieu of the VisaScreen™ Certificate. Nurses who qualify under Section 212 (r), are exempt from the English language proficiency examinations. In addition verification of nursing education and validation of licensure is streamlined.

Effective April 1, 2004, CGFNS has included Trinidad and Tobago among the countries that qualify as 212(r) status. Trinidad and Tobago now joins Australia, Canada (except Quebec), Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United States, and the United Kingdom as countries designated as 212 (r) countries. CGFNS was given authority to designate countries eligible for the exemption under section 212 (r) if the quality of nursing education in that country and the English language proficiency of those who complete such programs, are sufficient.

In addition, effective April 1, 2004, CGFNS has designated the state of Michigan as a state that qualifies under Section 212 (r) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act. Michigan joins the states of Florida, Georgia, Illinois, and New York. The nurse who qualifies under Section 212 (r) must hold a license by examination and not by endorsement in one of the five states.

To qualify for the “Certified Statement”, the foreign-educated nurse must:

- Hold a valid and unrestricted license as a nurse in the state where he or she intends to be employed and such state verifies that the foreign licenses are valid and unencumbered. Those states are Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, and New York.
- Pass the NCLEX-RN® exam;
- Have graduated from a nursing program in which the language of instruction was in English; and
- Have graduated from a nursing program located in Australia, Canada (except Quebec), Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, Trinidad, Tobago, the United Kingdom, or the United States.

### 2004 Qualifying Exam Dates

**\*Sept. 22, 2004** (Deadline: June 23, 2004)

**November 10, 2004** (Deadline: August 11, 2004)

\*Special Administration. See [www.cgfns.org](http://www.cgfns.org) for details

## CGFNS Hosts A Special Educational Initiative in Your Community: New U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Visa Regulations for Foreign Health Care Workers

**A**s part of a major change in federal policy affecting hiring of foreign health care workers in the U.S., the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued new Section 343 rules requiring foreign health care workers who are seeking temporary or permanent occupational visas or Trade NAFTA status to obtain a special visa certification in order to deliver patient care and provide health care services in this country. The Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)/International Commission on Healthcare Professions (ICHP) are sponsoring a special educational program in your community about the new DHS rules. This timely educational initiative is designed to provide you with important information about the new rules and facilitate the process for foreign health care workers to obtain a visa certificate through the CGFNS/ICHP specially designed VisaScreen™ program.

The new federal DHS rules apply to:

- Registered nurses and licensed practical (vocational) nurses
- Audiologists
- Physical Therapists
- Medical Technicians
- Occupational Therapists
- Medical Laboratory Technologists
- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Physician Assistants

To register, go to [www.cgfns.org](http://www.cgfns.org)

### Session Locations and Dates

Philadelphia, PA	Monday, August 16th
Miami, FL	Monday, August 23rd
Seattle, WA	Monday, September 27th
New York, NY	Monday, October 4th
San Francisco, CA	Monday, October 18th
Atlanta, GA	Monday, November 1st

## CGFNS Hosts Golf Event



The 2004 CGFNS Golf Invitational, will take place on Monday, September 20, 2004 at the prestigious Whitmarsh Valley Country Club, Lafayette Hill, PA. The event is a fundraising event that will benefit the CGFNS education/research fund. The fund was established to provide scholarships, fellowships and international exchange.

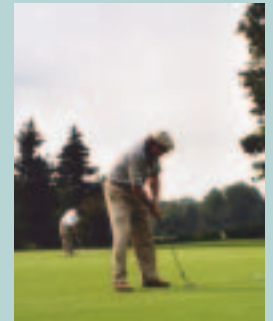
The Whitmarsh Valley Country Club has a rich history, with its share of major tournaments. Tournament participants will get a unique opportunity to play the lush, verdant hills of one of the premier courses in the region.

The tournament format will be based on individual stroke. Contests will include: Closest to the Line, Men's Longest Drive, Ladies' Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin (2 holes), Pot of Gold 50/50, On the Green, Hole in One (prize of 2005 car from Moore Chevrolet).

Trilogy Construction Company is this year's title sponsor. Other sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Marla Downing ([m Downing@cgfns.org](mailto:m Downing@cgfns.org)) phone 215-495-6950, ext 242.



Pictured: Judy Pendergast (CGFNS left) and Domenic Giandomenico (CGFNS right) pose with representatives from Ricoh, the 2003 title sponsor for the event.



Roger Boothroyd, PhD takes aim during the first annual CGFNS Golf Event in 2003.

Mark  
your calendar

CGFNS will be exhibiting at the following conferences. If you will be attending any of these conferences, please stop by the CGFNS booth. We would love to see you there.

**July 19-23**  
National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) 2004 Annual Meeting & Exhibition  
Salt Lake City, UT

**July 27-31**  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) Annual Meeting  
Los Angeles, CA

**August 3-6**  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing Annual Meeting  
Kansas City, MO