

# Newsletter

March, 2024



## THE MAINE STATEMENT

The ILC Maine statement: 'Time for the fundamental care [r]evolution' has been published in the Journal of Advanced Nursing. This is the third of our major policy statements about the status of fundamental care and the concerns of the care professionals who strive to deliver person-centred fundamental care internationally.

This statement emerged from the ILC International Conference and Leadership and Mentoring Program held in Portland, Maine, USA, in June 2023. Conference and Leadership Program participants strongly articulated the issues that keep them awake at night, and the important and urgent changes they want to see implemented, so they can deliver high quality care and achieve positive outcomes for the people they care for.

Internationally, fundamental care is reported to be poorly delivered, delayed or missed, negatively impacting patients, their families/carers and healthcare staff and systems. Overcoming this global challenge requires profound transformation in how our healthcare systems value, deliver and evaluate fundamental care. This transformation will take both evolutionary and revolutionary guises. In this position statement, we argue how this [r]evolutionary transformation for fundamental care can and must be created within clinical practice.

The statement focuses on what must occur to transform how fundamental care is valued, prioritized and delivered within clinical practice settings globally.

[Read the full Maine Statement here.](#)

## Key Dates

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**14 March**  
[Europe, Africa, Middle  
East Regional Network](#)

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**15 March**  
[Americas Regional  
Network](#)

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**26 March**  
[Asia / Pacific Regional  
Network](#)

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**10 April**  
**Education Special  
Interest Group**

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**24 April**  
**Research Special  
Interest Group**

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**30 April / 1 May**  
**ILC Strategy & Policy  
Forum**



# 2024 ILC Conference Speakers

7 & 8 June 2023, Oxford, UK



**Professor Alison Leary - UK**

Professor Alison Leary is a Senior Consultant at the World Health Organisation, Human Resources for Health, and the Chair of Healthcare & Workforce Modelling at London South Bank University. She undertakes projects around the modelling of complex systems in healthcare.



**Dr Crystal Oldman - UK**

Dr Crystal Oldman is the Chief Executive of the Queen's Nursing Institute. Crystal worked in the NHS for 18 years, the majority of which was in the field of community nursing. She has a passion for learning, teaching and research to support best practice.



**Professor Dimitri Beeckman - Belgium & Sweden**

Professor Dimitri Beeckman is a Professor of Nursing Science and holds many current and former positions of influence in global wound research organisations. His expertise lies in wound and skin integrity research, as well as psychometrics, clinical trials and education.



**Professor Debra Jackson - Australia**

Professor of Debra Jackson is a highly regarded leader, academic and author in the international nursing community who is passionate about health equity and social justice. Debra's career has spanned clinical practice, academic research and scholarship.



**Dr Devin Carr - USA**

Devin Carr is Chief Nursing Officer at Maine Medical Center (MMC), leading the medical center's Magnet-Recognized nursing team. Devin has more than 30 years of experience in healthcare in a variety of clinical, academic, and leadership roles.

**DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAM OUT NOW**



INTERNATIONAL  
LEARNING  
COLLABORATIVE

## Fundamentals of Care

## Leadership & Mentoring Program

INTENSIVE WORKSHOP  
OXFORD, UK  
10 - 12 JUNE, 2024

### Start your 12-month fundamentals of care leadership and mentoring program with international experts

The ILC's Fundamentals of Care Leadership and Mentoring Program begins with an intensive 3-day workshop, followed by 12 months of mentoring. The program will empower you to challenge and change how fundamentals of care is valued, prioritised, and actioned within your organisation, by building your leadership skills.

The program will give participants the opportunity to meet and work with a selection of the international ILC Fundamentals of Care Leadership Program Faculty attending Oxford for the event.

**[Tickets on sale now](#)**







## THE CASE FOR FUNDAMENTAL CARE TO BE THE NORM

Those of you in the ILC will need no convincing that fundamental care needs to be fully integrated in all care settings. We are often asked – “show us the evidence that fundamental care works”. Professor Alison Kitson, Chairperson of the ILC recently spoke with colleagues in the ILC Strategy & Policy Forum about this question. Her response was that we need look no further than the evidence about what happens when fundamental care is missed, nurses are ignored, or patients are not listened to. There are three recent examples that speak volumes about the negative, and sometimes fatal impact of not providing person-centred fundamental care.

A recent review of international data led by researchers from the UK and Ireland, found that emergency departments with fewer nurses are more likely to experience delays in patient care and have a higher rate of serious outcomes for patients. [Fewer ED nurses linked to poorer patient outcomes | Nursing Times](#) The study, published in the International Journal of Nursing Studies, looked at the impact of nurse staffing numbers on the quality of care in emergency departments with data from 16 studies. These studies showed a link between lower staffing levels in emergency departments and increased patient wait times, more patients leaving without being seen and longer overall stays in the department. The other impacts included an increase in time to medications and therapeutic interventions and an increased risk of cardiac arrest within the emergency department.

“The most common negative outcome associated with lower nurse staffing levels was that patients were more likely to leave the emergency department before they had been seen.”

A second example is where a young girl tragically died in the UK after medical staff did not listen to the parents’ concerns about the deterioration of their daughter after a bike accident which damaged her pancreas. [‘Martha’s rule’ granting urgent second opinion to be adopted in 100 English hospitals | Hospitals | The Guardian](#) “Martha’s Rule” has come about after an inquest found Martha would probably have survived if she had been moved to intensive care sooner, which her parents had asked doctors to do. The new rule means patients whose health is failing will be granted the right to obtain an urgent second opinion about their care. “Martha’s rule” will initially be adopted in 100 English hospitals from April 2024.

Martha’s parents said: “We believe Martha’s rule will save lives. In cases of deterioration, families and carers by the bedside can be aware of changes busy clinicians can’t. Their knowledge should be treated as a resource.”

[Read More](#)

## FLINDERS UNIVERSITY 2024 CNHS PROFESSOR ERIK ELGAARD SØRENSEN PHD SCHOLAR APPOINTED

In 2020 Flinders University and Aalborg Universitet in Denmark established a research collaboration including joint supervision for two PhD students; one in each country. The collaboration is consistent with CNHS ambitions of enabling better health and caring in the world by shaping the future of research, education, policy and practice while enhancing our national and international status across professional, care and support disciplines.

The joint project is named in honour of the late Professor Erik Elgaard Sørensen, an enthusiastic and committed supporter of fundamental care and the International Learning Collaborative. The inaugural candidates were Dr Mette Adams from Flinders University and Dr Maiken Holm Kaldal from Aalborg Universitet.

The new 2024 Flinders University PhD candidate is Alexandra Mudd. Alexandra is being supervised by Professor Tiffany Conroy and Professor Lambert Schuwirth from Flinders University, Associate Professor Siri Lygum Voldbjerg from Aalborg Universitet, and Dr Anita Goldschmied from Sheffield Hallam University.

Alexandra's primary research interests are in relationship-based care, how it is conceptualised, taught, evaluated and promoted, along with the concurrent sociopolitical. Alexandra's PhD will explore how nursing lecturers can involve members of the public to help teach relationship-based care to nursing students.



### ILC FOUNDING PARTNERS





## WELCOME TO OUR FOUNDING PARTNER - UPPSALA UNIVERSITY, SWEDEN

Uppsala University has a long history of collaboration with the International Learning Collaborative (ILC) and has for more than 10 years been actively involved in the development of the Fundamentals of Care framework, and engaged in the important work of ILC. This has led to international collaborations in the development of the framework, as well as empirical testing of the framework in different settings.

In 2017, Uppsala University was the proud host of that years' conference day and summit days in Uppsala. Today Uppsala University has taken the lead and supports the national implementation of the Fundamentals of Care framework in Sweden. T

he support from the ILC, with engaged discussions and sharing of ideas with colleagues across the globe, has been vital in Uppsala University's movement forward.

Uppsala University is now proud to take the next step joining the ILC as a Founding partner.

With the support of the ILC, Uppsala University will continue the implementation of the framework across our respective nursing programs at Bachelor level (nursing program, radiography program) and at Master level (specialist nursing program, midwifery program), as well as supporting the work within the organization.

We are looking forward to future collaboration and to continue building strong networks with colleagues within the ILC to proceed our journey of changing care practice for a delivery of person-centred fundamental care.

*Statements from Dr Ulrika Pöder, Chairperson of the committee of the Nursing Programs at Uppsala University and Dr Eva Jangland and Dr Åsa Muntlin, longstanding members of ILC and Founder of the Swedish network for Fundamentals of Care, regarding reasons for being an ILC Founding partner:*

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### ILC FOUNDING PARTNERS





## ILC Organisational Membership

The ILC has a focus on collaboration, and the implementation of Fundamental Care as a priority at an organisational level.

ILC membership demonstrates an organisation's ability to recognise and respond to the imperative need for the Fundamental Care to be expedited globally.

Thank you to our newest organisational members:

**Carl-Thiem Klinikum Cottbus  
Germany**

**Karolinska University  
Sweden**

**Hvidovre Hospital  
Denmark**

The ILC's member organisations receive international recognition as an innovator in the Fundamentals of Care community.

Interested in engaging your care teams in the global effort to improve quality of care? Contact [admin@ilccare.org](mailto:admin@ilccare.org)



## Regional Networks

The ILC Regional Networks are open meetings for anyone to join in the conversation about fundamentals of care in their region. We have designed the regional networks to be welcoming and inclusive platforms to engage with colleagues in real-time.

Members are welcome to share the invitations for the Regional Network meetings with their colleagues outside of their organisations.

Regional Networks meet four times a year, they have speakers and discussion items. They will drive the practical side of the ILC by suggesting and assisting in the development of resources, tools and templates to use in practice, education and research.

RSVP to your upcoming regional network meeting [here](#).

*To access the Zoom link for your next regional network meeting, please head to the event via the ILC website and RSVP to the online event. The Zoom meeting link will be sent to your email provided.*



## Focus on Education

The ILC has established a Special Interest Group around the teaching of fundamentals of care in our professional education institutions, and for ongoing professional education.

This international group is planning a workshop in the ILC 2024 Conference in Oxford to bring together people who are educating our next generation of nurses and care professionals.

Convenors, Prof Annemarie Dowling Castronovo (USA) and Dr Alison Marchbank are steering this group who will tackle the challenges of integrating fundamentals of care into the modern nursing and health care training curriculum.

To ensure you stay up to date with the latest information from your regional network, please [visit the ILC website and log in to your account](#). In your member portal you can join a regional network or special interest group - 'Networks and Groups'.