

The wound care year ahead in the African environment: 2014

Dear WHASA Members,

Why a WHASA?

What does belonging to a body like WHASA mean to us as members? Does WHASA fulfil the expectations of its members and the person with the wound? These are relevant questions and it is time for WHASA to reflect and develop strategies to address current and future roles and structures as a representative professional body. This requires changes within WHASA such as adopting a more "business-minded" approach while fulfilling its caring role at the same time.

The vision of WHASA

To be a primary resource to foster and develop research, education and advice to all health care professionals, funders and industry who share the mission of advancing and serving the field of wound healing and prevention thereof.

The primary reason that brings us together in WHASA is to improve the care for the person with a wound. But how simple this may sound, the mission is often fraught with obstacles and detours, diverting us from our primary goal.

The challenges that WHASA is facing are mainly changes in health care delivery systems, changing needs of wound care practitioners, funders and industry, providing ongoing quality professional development at various levels and being positioned to provide expert advice to its members and policy makers and funders.

The main focus area for WHASA is to determine its strategic direction by identifying and addressing the most serious strategic challenges that faces it, which if not addressed could undermine its long-term future.

With this in mind I call on all WHASA members who unconditionally share the mission of advancing wound health care to engage collectively and in an un-biased manner in strategic planning and constructive participation in promoting the role and functions of WHASA as a relevant professional body.

Regards
Gerda van Rensburg

President: Wound Healing Association of Southern Africa