As the Taskforce continues to wind down and wrap up its operations, I would like to take this opportunity to provide our readers with a final update and message.

To mark the conclusion of N3ET, the Taskforce is hosting a celebratory event on August 30th in Melbourne. This event will allow the Taskforce to personally thank some of the many organisations and individuals who have been pivotal to the success of the Taskforce over the last two years. The Taskforce has much to celebrate having completed the large and complex Workplan.

The N3ET Secretariat is presently finalising the final report to Ministers, and assembling the N3ETWorks - a collection of works, papers and documents reflecting the N3ET outcomes from 2004-2006. Our registered stakeholders will receive E-Updates notifying when these documents become publicly available.

While transition arrangements are being finalised with the Office of the Australian Health Ministers’ Advisory Council, and the Health Workforce Principal Committee, the N3ET web site will continue to be maintained by the N3ET Secretariat until 30 September 2006. In the event the web site is moved, we will ensure that registered stakeholders are notified of our new web address by way of an E-Update.

As some of our work will be ongoing, arrangements around this work, including appropriate contact details, will also be advised by way of E-Update.

On a personal note, as of August 14th, I returned to my previous role as Principal Nurse Advisor/Director of the Nurse Policy Branch with the Department of Human Services Victoria. My contact details will remain the same, namely:

| Physical address       | Department of Human Services Victoria  
|                       | Level 20, 50 Lonsdale Street  
|                       | Melbourne VIC 3000 |
| Postal address        | GPO Box 4057 Melbourne VIC 3001 |
| Direct                | +61 3 9096 8971 |
| EA - Julie Kirkovska  | +61 3 9096 528 |
| Fax                   | +61 3 9096 9212 |
| Email                 | belinda.moyes@dhs.vic.gov.au |

The N3ET Secretariat will also be returning to the Department of Human Services Victoria. Dr Christine Breakwell and Ms Katy Fielding returned to the Nurse Policy Branch on August 14th following their secondments to the Taskforce. Effective October 1st, Ms Shelly Lynde will transfer to the Nurse Policy Branch to begin a three-month project.

Again, I would like to thank the Taskforce nominated members and the N3ET Secretariat for their hard work, invaluable input, and absolute dedication. It has been a great experience resulting in some truly good work that has, and will
make, a significant and lasting contribution to nursing and health workforce planning in Australia.

To close, I want to quote Charles Handy (The Empty Raincoat, Arrow Books Ltd, UK, 1995, p18):

“Life will never be easy, nor perfectible, nor completely predictable. It will be best understood backwards, but we have to live it forwards. To make it liveable, at all levels, we have to learn to use the paradoxes, to balance the contradictions and inconsistencies and to use them as an invitation to find a better way.”

Adjunct Professor Belinda Moyes
Chair
National Nursing & Nursing Education Taskforce

Final N³ET Taskforce Meeting - 14 June 2006 - Melbourne
L-R: Sue Macri, Di Lawson, Rosemary Bryant, Adj Prof Belinda Moyes, Prof Pauline Nugent, Fiona Stoker, Adj Prof Kathy Baker (absent: Prof Jill White)