



Press Release

**For Immediate Release
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The NSNA 29th Annual MidYear Career Planning Conference Held in Memphis, TN, October 27 - 30

Brooklyn, New York. November 17, 2011—The National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) 29th Annual Career Planning Conference was held at Memphis Cook Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee on October 27-30, 2011. Nursing students, faculty, exhibitors and alumni attended educational workshops, and listened to renowned speakers. Many attendees also had the opportunity to meet with the 2011-2012 NSNA Board of Directors.

On Thursday, keynote speaker **Sally Karioth**, PhD, RN, kicked off the Opening Ceremony with his keynote address, "Compassion Energy: How to Recognize It. How to Experience It." Through her rousing stories that celebrated life and reassuringly addressed death, Dr. Karioth moved attendees to tears one minute, and had them laughing the next. Her inspiring talk was the perfect way to kick off the Conference. Dr. Karioth is a professor, author, national speaker, nurse, teacher, writer, talk show hostess and nationally renowned grief therapist.

As the conference continued throughout the next two days, students attended the many sessions and workshops offered during the MidYear Conference: the NCLEX-RN[®] mini review course; a meeting of

the Council of State Presidents; the two-part nursing specialty showcase highlighting critical care nursing; air and surface transport nursing; nephrology nursing; emergency room nursing; perioperative nursing; neonatal nursing; oncology nursing; infusion nursing; nurse midwifery; and geriatric nursing; a variety of workshops on social media, resume management, acing school exams, writing resolutions, career progression, and more; and the MidYear Exhibit Hall where students networked and spoke with representatives from hospitals, schools of nursing, and other publishing and product companies. Attendees also had a great opportunity to bring their résumé and questions to meet with advisors in the NSNA Career Counseling Center, held during exhibiting hours.

The Plenary Session on Friday, October 28, featured **Karen Daley**, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, President of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Dr. Daley spoke about needlestick and sharps injuries as one of the greatest risks that frontline healthcare workers face. With her personal story she made the case for refocusing efforts on prevention and discussed ANA's Safe Needles Save Lives campaign. The session was moderated by **Lois Marshall**, PhD, RN, who also managed the Career Counseling Center throughout the Conference.

On the morning of Saturday, October 29, attendees were treated to a continental breakfast featuring a presentation by the NSNA Image of Nursing Committee on the importance of image and professional dress. The presentation was followed by a Life Uniform sponsored fashion show with our very own Board of Directors walking the "catwalk."

The 29th Annual MidYear Career Planning Conference came to an end on Saturday evening with the Association Roundtables. This traditional session closes the Conference with an opportunity for student leaders to meet with the Board of Directors and discuss their various program activities, including Breakthrough to Nursing, Nominating and Elections, Legislation/Education, Image of Nursing, Global Initiatives in Nursing, Secretaries and Treasurers, Community Health/Disaster Preparedness, Resolutions, Convention and Program Planning, and Membership.

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NSNA is a membership organization representing approximately 58,000 students in Associate Degree, Diploma, Baccalaureate, generic Masters and generic Doctoral programs preparing students for Registered Nurse licensure, as well as RNs in BSN completion programs.