

MEMORANDIUM

TO: Bylaws and Policy Chairs/Directors

FROM: Liz Patail, NSNA Director and Chair, Bylaws and Policies Committee

RE: Summer Memo

DATE: August 10, 2009

Hello Bylaws and Policies Committee Chairs and Directors! I hope you are excited about the year ahead. It is an honor for me to serve as the [2009-2010 NSNA Bylaws and Policies Committee](#) Chair with committee members Diana Carbone Peck, NSNA Director and Dana Jennings, Council of State Presidents Planning Committee Chair and Ex-Officio member of the NSNA Board of Directors. We got off to a great start at our June Board meeting in New York and look forward to keeping that momentum going. Our Bylaws and Policies Committee theme for the year, “**Empowerment!**,” expresses just that.

At our first meeting we set goals and benchmarks for the year, including

1. Make our members more knowledgeable about the NSNA Bylaws, as well as their own
2. Continue Interpretive Statements for the NSNA Code of Ethics: Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct
3. Update the Bylaws and Policies webpage to include more dynamic and accessible information
4. Assist with member questions or concerns about bylaws and policies

Goal # 1

We invite you to help members in your state association and school chapter become more knowledgeable about your own bylaws and policies, as well as those of [NSNA](#). One of the ways we hope to accomplish this is by asking all chapters during the month of September to perform a yearly Bylaws check. We are dubbing September “Bylaws and Policies Empowerment Month.” Making sure that these foundational pieces are clear, thorough and well designed at the beginning of the academic year will help ensure success and undoubtedly save time and frustration for your chapter in the future.

Goal # 2

Our next goal is to continue and complete the *Interpretive Statements of the NSNA Code of Ethics: Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct*. This important work was begun and continued by several previous NSNA Bylaws and Policies Committees. We are currently in full swing on this project and plan to release the *Interpretive Statements of the NSNA Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct* during the [27th Midyear Career Planning Conference in Phoenix, AZ, October 29 – November 1, 2009](#). These statements will make our NSNA Code of Ethics more transparent and help students apply them. Make plans to join us for the Bylaws and Policies Committee Roundtable on Saturday, October

31 from 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm to receive a copy of the *Interpretive Statements of the NSNA Code of Ethics: Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct* and discuss state and school Policy and Procedures manuals with colleagues from across the country.

Goal # 3

We also plan to assist in updating the [Bylaws and Policies web pages](#) during the coming year. We will be reviewing the information posted and provide suggestions to incorporate updates and resources as the new NSNA website is launched this fall. Our goal is to continue to make the [Bylaws and Policies content educational and interactive](#), and model bylaws and policies information more accessible.

Goal # 4

The final goal we discussed during the New York meeting was making ourselves available to all of you out there working on Bylaws and Policies at the chapter level. The work you are doing is immensely important and ensures the stability, continuity and growth of your chapter. Each of us on the NSNA Bylaws and Policies Committee want you to know that you can contact us anytime that you have questions, suggestions, or just want to talk about what is going on in your state. Hearing from you helps us continue to know how to best empower other nursing students and our profession. So please stay in touch. My email is directorw@nsna.org.

I appreciate this chance to share with you the exciting ways we can work together in the weeks and months ahead. Above all, I look forward to working with you and helping you continue to empower your chapter. Have a great start to your school year. We hope to see you at MidYear this October in Phoenix!

CC: NSNA Board of Directors
State Presidents
State Consultants