



EDITORIAL



By Alison Faust,
Imprint® Editor

Welcome to the Jungle

Imagine you are staggering along by yourself in the rainforest. The branches jut out of the monstrous tropical plants and trees continuously block your self-made path. Before you know it, you're scratched, tired, and grouchy. All you can hear in your head is, "Man! I wish I hadn't turned down a *guided* tour!"

Without the physical injuries, the above situation is not all that different from a year in the life of a nursing student. I've never met a fellow student who didn't feel occasionally lost, exhausted, alone, or, well... grouchy. Often students end up spending most of their time wondering if all this hard work will *ever* pay off. Luckily, however, in your nursing school journey you *did* pick the guided tour—by becoming a member of NSNA®—and you can come out of this journey not only unscathed, but empowered—with a degree!

This edition of *Imprint*® is a palpable example of the benefits we as NSNA® members get by turning in our dues. Inside this issue are tips on studying, preparing

for clinicals, and coping with everyday stressors. In the *News* section on page 12 you can also learn all about your new 2009-2010 NSNA® Board of Directors, who are your official guides through your next year of nursing school. Finally, this issue gives us a look back at the 2009 Annual Convention in Nashville, TN—just one example of the amazing places that NSNA® can take you.

It's a well-known fact that no experienced explorer travels without a map and compass. Just look at fearless explorers such as Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus. Even Dora the Explorer would not go anywhere without her trusty map! Think of this issue as just that—a map to help you plan out the next year of school, as well as a compass to point you in the right direction and send you on your way. It may not seem like much, but combine it with the knowledge and support that you already have, and you can be all but invincible this year! ∞

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