

**The Foundation of the
National Student Nurses Association**
In Memory of Frances Tompkins

Press Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Jonathan Buttrick
(718) 210- 0705 x 104
Email: jonathan@nsna.org



**Patrick Hickey Elected to Foundation of the
National Student Nurses' Association Board of Trustees**

Brooklyn, NY – July 14, 2011. The Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association (FNSNA) is pleased to announce the election of Patrick Hickey, DrPH, RN, CNOR to serve as Secretary on the FNSNA Board of Trustees. Dr. Hickey, Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina College of Nursing in Columbia, SC, became the first registered nurse to have climbed all Seven Summits (the highest mountains on each continent) when he reached the top of Mt. Everest on May 24, 2007. His love of climbing began in 1993 in Quito, Ecuador, but his nursing career began long before that. Earning an RN licensure in 1976, he began a career in emergency and operating room nursing and, eventually, as a nurse educator.

FNSNA President, Kenneth Dion, PhD, RN, states, "Dr. Hickey is a truly inspirational nurse leader. He is clearly in touch with both the students and the work environment they will be entering. His vision and energy will be an invaluable asset to the FNSNA Board of Trustees."

Dr. Hickey is no stranger to championing support and guidance to student nurses and the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). After his accomplishment with his Seven Summits quest he established the "Summit Scholarship" for student nurses at the University of South Carolina. Having faith in the unlimited potential of student nurses, Dr. Hickey established the "Nurses Can Do Anything" scholarship in the FNSNA after delivering the 2008 NSNA MidYear Conference keynote address in Reno, NV. The scholarship is supported by a portion of sales from his book, *7 Summits: A Nurse's Quest to Conquer Mountaineering and*

Life, as well as all of his speaking fees received for his inspirational talks given through the American Program Bureau where he is a featured speaker.

In April 2011, Dr. Hickey once again provided inspiration and guidance to NSNA members and student leaders by presenting the keynote address at the 2011 NSNA Annual Convention in Salt Lake City, UT. Describing nursing as “a journey with an adventurous route and an ever present fear of the unknown,” he presented the seven summits in life that students must scale on their journey in nursing. Humorous and engaging, Dr. Hickey ended yet another rousing presentation in Salt Lake City and was immediately surprised by being bestowed with NSNA’s highest honor, Honorary Membership.

###

The Foundation of the National Student Nurses Association (FNSNA) was created in 1969 to honor Frances Tompkins, the Association's first Executive Director. Organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, the Foundation awards scholarships to qualified nursing students. Contributions to the FNSNA are tax-deductible. Since 1974, the FNSNA has awarded over \$3.4 million dollars in scholarships to undergraduate nursing students. The Foundation is organized as a 501 (C) (3) charitable foundation.