



Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The NSNA Board of Directors met November 13-14, 2007, during the MidYear Conference in Kansas City, MO. The following highlights their actions:

- Accepted reports from the following: Finance Committee, *Imprint* and Image of Nursing, Legislation/Education, Membership, Convention and Program Planning, Breakthrough to Nursing, Community Health, Bylaws and Policies, Disaster Task Force, and the State Presidents' update.
- Approved the 2008 Operating Budget.
- Approved the topic for the Board of Directors resolution to be submitted to the Resolutions Committee.
- Approved changes to the NSNA Campaign Regulations.
- Appointed Dr. Cheryl K. Schmidt as the ANA-appointed Consultant to NSNA. Dr. Schmidt will succeed Dr. Anne Manton when the latter's term expires on March 29, 2008.
- Approved making the Disaster Task Force a permanent NSNA Board of Directors Committee, effective beginning for the 2008-09 term.
- Accepted to select Pittsburgh, PA, for the Annual Convention site for April 2012.
- Accepted proposal to implement "greener" environmentally friendly practices into the workings of the organization.
- Appointed Kelley Wilson to the Spirit of Nursing Selection Committee.
- Approved a motion to encourage NSNA members to join the International Council of Nurses - Nursing Student Network.
- Approved a Professional Conduct Policy for NSNA elected and appointed officials and candidates.
- In February, the Board accepted the resignation of Devyn Denton, Breakthrough to Nursing Director, and determined not to fill the position.

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The next meeting of the Board of Directors takes place on March 24, 2008, at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center.

2008 Slate of Candidates

The National Student Nurses' Association Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC) is pleased to announce the 2008 Slate of Candidates for Board of Directors and Nominating and Elections Committee. Delegates vote for the candidates at the upcoming NSNA Annual Convention in Grapevine, TX, March 26-30, 2008.

Candidates may also be nominated from the floor of the House of Delegates. If you would like information about running from the floor, send an e-mail with your name, complete mailing address, phone number, e-mail address and the position you are planning to run for to nsna@nsna.org or call (718) 210-0705. An application and packet of information will be mailed to you.

The NEC urges those who are planning on running from the floor to have their completed application to NSNA, received by March 14, 2008. Send in the application to NSNA by this date and a candidate's packet will be mailed to you. Check out the 2008 Slate:

2008 Slate of Candidates

President:

E. Jordan Colwell, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Scottsbluff, NE
Jenna Sanders, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, IN

Vice President:

Laura Chapman, University of Alabama at Huntsville, Huntsville, AL
Brent Straley, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH
Courtney Truax, Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS

Secretary/Treasurer:

David Horner, Golden West College, Huntington Beach, CA

Imprint Editor:

Lauren Brewer, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
Kassandra Combest, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ
Emily Little, University of Maine, Orono, ME

Breakthrough to Nursing Director:

Fikile Mpofu, Piedmont Technical College, Greenwood, SC

Director (North):

Grant Tyler, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, IN

Director (South):

Bonnie Kluttz Hill, Cabarrus College of Health Sciences, Concord, NC

Director (East): Vacant

Director (West):

Candace Biberston, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Nominating and Elections Committee (North):

Vacant

Nominating and Elections Committee (South):

Melissa Snow, Charity-Delgado School of Nursing, New Orleans, LA

Nominating and Elections Committee (East):

Vacant

Nominating and Elections Committee (West):

Kimberly Root, Saddleback College, Mission Viejo, CA

Putting your best foot forward for NSNA



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I recently challenged the Board of Directors to consider creating an official policy about social responsibility for our candidates and elected officials.

Only when we considered all of the various issues surrounding such a policy like freedom of speech vs. our obligation to the profession did we begin to understand the complexity of the subject matter. We felt protective about the freedoms we inherently possess as citizens of this country and at the same time were concerned about the long-term impact that our seemingly private behaviors might have on NSNA and the nursing profession at large. Online communities offer opportunities like never before to connect with like-minded individuals; however, they also open the door to the unintended consequences of turning private moments into very public ones. Even our actions in our communities can reflect poorly on those we serve.

The elected officials of the NSNA bear the fiduciary responsibility of the association, which means we are entrusted to ensure the financial and operational security of the organization. We are ethically bound to protect the association that we serve. Engaging in actions that do not appear trustworthy or responsible can lead to an erosion of confidence from the membership. When members distrust their leaders they tend to take their membership dollars elsewhere and so do our business partners. Our members have the right to expect their leaders to hold themselves to a higher standard during

their term of office and our new policy is designed to help guide them in their actions.

***Things to consider in public...**Keep your language clean and know your audience. Know who is listening when you speak or watching when you act. If those present are strangers you should

automatically assume they could be a members of NSNA. Ask yourself if what you are about to do will reflect poorly on the organization. How do you know what might be crossing the line? I like to use this litmus test – Would you do it if the Dean of your school was present? If you think you would refrain from certain language

or a particular action in front of a dean, then reconsider the action.

***Things to consider online...** Again, it's important to keep language clean! Don't post compromising photos or videos.

Not only will this reflect negatively on NSNA but it has the potential to damage future employment opportunities. Also be careful with context. Maybe a classmate took a picture of you performing a breast exam on a

prosthesis during a lab test, but will the rest of the world realize this when it gets emailed to hundreds of people? Keep your personal sites set to "private" – only allow entry to those you know *and* trust. Remember that once you allow access to someone, even private information can be copied and sent to anyone at anytime. Be cautious about joining different groups. Joining the "I'm not an alcoholic, I'm a drunk" group might be a funny diversion for overly-stressed college students, but exposes them as an individual that the members may feel is not ready for national leadership.

The way we interact in a changing and increasingly global environment can have far reaching consequences or lead to limitless opportunities...the choice is ours. This year's Board has gone to great lengths to consider how to best preserve the reputation of NSNA. The product of our deliberations produced a policy that is both timely and relevant. I know that going forward the future leadership will have the tools to put their best foot forward for the NSNA.

Professional Conduct Policy

NSNA elected and appointed officials and candidates should be aware of the very public nature of their role during their candidacy and term of office. As NSNA representatives, you are expected to carefully consider how your interactions with the public will impact the NSNA, even when you are not at an NSNA function. Your actions as an NSNA representative are expected to be that of a reasonable and prudent student leader. As a representative to the organization you must hold yourself to a higher standard.

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NLN Convenes Think Tank on Expanding Diversity in Nurse Educator Workforce

Decrying a lack of diversity in the nation's nurse educator workforce,

the National League for Nursing has taken the lead in working to change this reality in all types of nursing programs. This high-priority NLN initiative, which grew out of the League's 2007-2010 Strategic Plan, is projected to evolve over the coming decade. It began with an invitation

to influential nurse educators, practicing nurses and professionals in health care and higher education to join a new NLN-led Think Tank on Expanding Diversity in the Nurse Educator Workforce.

Providing the rationale and context for the NLN's decision to spearhead the think tank, NLN CEO Beverly Malone, RN, PhD, FAAN asserted, "Among NLN's stated core values is the understanding that a culture of diversity moves beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the richness of each individual, recognizing that while diversity can be about individual differences, it also encompasses institutional and system-wide behavior patterns."

The inaugural group of a dozen met on January 9-10 in Orlando, FL, with discussions facilitated by Sr. Rosemary Donley, SC, PhD, C-ANP, RN, FAAN, ordinary professor at Catholic University in Washington, DC, and Frances Henderson, EdD, RN, retired dean and professor at Alcorn State University in Natchez, MS. Sr. Donley, a past president of the NLN, has also chaired Catholic University's Community/Public Health Nursing Graduate Program, where one of the clinical specialty options is in global, immigrant, and refugee health. Dr. Henderson, a former member of the NLN Board of Governors, serves as deputy director of the largest, single-site, epidemiological, population-based study of African Americans and cardiovascular disease ever undertaken, the Jackson Heart Study.

Other think tank participants reflected the scope of diversity the NLN envisions in the nurse education workforce. Represented were Asian, Hispanic, Native American, African American, and Filipino voices in nursing, as well as those who deal with multicultural affairs and advocate for nurse educators with disabilities. With male representation on the think tank as well, increasing gender

diversity is another current agenda priority.

Recommendations from the initial meeting include the use of several existing NLN initiatives to build diversity including the Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education Program, NLN awards, and the "Reflection and Dialogue" series. The think tank also discussed:

- Identifying two priority issues the NLN must address in order to expand diversity in the nurse educator workforce
- Identifying significant concepts and recommendations to be included in an NLN position statement on "Expanding Diversity in the Nurse Educator Workforce" that will engage the nursing education community in dialogue and encourage the development of diversity building initiatives within all types of nursing education programs
- Identifying potential authors for and concepts to be addressed in a new NLN book or other publication, to be titled *Expanding Diversity in the Nurse Educator Workforce*

Dr. Malone praised members of the think tank as "leaders we can count on to bring inspiration and real excitement to our work at the NLN. We are committed for the entire journey, beginning with racial/ethnic/gender diversity and moving to include a broader, more comprehensive spectrum of diversity," vowing, "I will keep you informed as our diversity initiatives take shape."

Echoing that commitment, NLN president M. Elaine Tagliareni, EdD, RN, said, "Fulfilling the vision of the NLN Board of Governors, through this process, we fully intend to bring about an ethnically and racially diverse workforce of faculty, researchers, and pedagogical scholars who mentor and serve as role models for future nurses and nurse educators." ©

Answers to the Crossword

If you don't want your crossword fun ruined, stop reading now!

Below are the answers to the Bylaws Column featured on page 31.

Across:		Down:	
1) Board of Directors	13) Article	1) Bylaws	11) Brooklyn
3) Two years	14) CS Lewis	2) Article Three	12) Ten
6) Seven	18) NEC	4) DEA	15) Owl
8) House	19) Fifty one	5) COSP Chair	16) Rose
10) Four	20) Ole	7) Vesuvius	17) Code
	22) Yo Yo Ma	9) Ethics	21) EOE