

A Window and a Dream



Greetings to each of you! For returning readers, I think that you will find that upcoming issues will offer stimulating topics, such as geriatrics, mentoring, global health issues, cultural competence and the Image of Nursing, that will challenge each of you to think “outside the box.” If you are receiving *Imprint* for the first time, or you are just beginning nursing school, we welcome you and hope that the magazine will be a significant resource as you begin your nursing school journey.

As a senior BSN student at the University of Texas at Tyler, I have often reflected on my last year and a half as a nursing student. I can recall the anticipation with which I entered my first semester. Upper-level students offered priceless advice, cautioned diligence in study, and last but certainly not least, emphasized the importance of a balance lifestyle. These students and your faculty will become great mentors to you, and will help you become “grounded” in course intricacies and the art of those elusive test-taking skills. Utilize all of the resources that are available to you, and your journey will be a smooth one.

Mentors are priceless – where would we be if not for them? My challenge to each of you is to take advantage of mentor programs, and if a program does not exist at your college of nursing, then establish a network of students willing to be resources for lower-level students. The reward will be great for those of us who are willing to give back to entry-level nursing students!

Finally, let me share what a humbling experience it has been for me to work with the current NSNA Board of Directors. During our first board meeting in New York City this summer, we came to know the truly amazing individuals who currently serve as leaders of the NSNA. Each of them brings an enormous amount of drive and tenacity to the board and the organization.

Great things are in the works for our MidYear Conference and the National Convention, and you will get a preview of those plans in the upcoming issue of *Imprint*. Please remember that you are invited to submit articles for review and consideration. I hope to see all of you at the MidYear Conference and the National Convention. Have a fantastic year!



I would like to dedicate this year to the memory of my good friend and fellow nursing student Paul Bear. He was a great champion for nursing students and the epitome of a mentor. He is missed but his inspiring guidance endures.

Tara Patton

Tara Patton,
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