

Photo courtesy of the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center

Stepping Up and Stepping Out 2009 Annual Convention • Nashville, TN



Romano

It's time to start prepare for Convention week! NSNA's 57th Annual Convention will take place at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, TN, from April 15 – 19, 2009. Keynote Speaker Rear Admiral Carol A. Romano is Chief Nurse Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, and also a senior advisor for clinical research informatics at the National Institutes of Health. On Wednesday, April 15, 2009, Rear Admiral Romano will bring her invaluable service and leadership experience to her speech on this year's theme, "Making It Big: Nursing Students Stepping Up and Stepping Out."



Anderson

On Saturday, April 18, the Convention's closing speaker will be Carol Grace Anderson, MA, who will present her motivational *Get Fired Up* program with tools to get fired up, takes risks, and cope with all of life's challenges. Attendees will learn how to be more productive, appreciate the benefits of change, and become a more powerful leader. Anderson is a national speaker, former Psychology teacher, and best-selling author.

Convention Events

- **Awards Presentations**—the General Scholarship and Promise of Nursing Scholarship recipients will be recognized during Wednesday's Opening Ceremony, and the Marilyn Bagwell grant will also be presented during this time. The top awards in each NSNA program will be awarded during Saturday's Closing Ceremony. The Leader of Leaders Award winner will be honored during the plenary session on Thursday, April 16, and the Isabel Hampton Robb Leadership award and NSNA/*Nursing Spectrum*/*Nurse Week* writing contest winner will be announced during Friday's plenary session.
- **Drexel NCLEX EXCEL Review**—NSNA offers 9 hours of review including quizzes throughout the two-day course. See Convention brochure at www.nсна.org for details.



- **Treasurers Leadership U Certificate Program**—Tuesday, April 14, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., networking dinner included, please send an e-mail to receptionist@nsna.org and put "Treasurers Workshop" in the subject line.
- **NSNA School Advisors and State Consultants**—attend the new comprehensive NSNA Leadership University Consultant and Advisors Certificate Program on Tuesday, April 14, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., networking dinner included. Contact receptionist@nsna.org for details.
- **Focus Sessions**—One-hour afternoon focus sessions will be offered on a variety of nursing and healthcare topics. Speakers representing national nursing associations, leading healthcare companies, publishers, and healthcare facilities present these educational workshops.
- **Faculty Pre-Convention Workshop**—"Moving Beyond Lecture: Principles and Practice of Active Teaching." This session presents a wide variety of instructional strategies that promote learner engagement and involvement.
- **Elections**—the House of Delegates convenes to vote on resolutions and elect the 2009-10 Board of Directors and Nominating and Elections Committee.
- **FNSNA Auction**—one of Convention's most popular events. Money raised during the event supports the Mary Ann Tuft Scholarship Fund. It features interesting items donated by individuals, chapters, sponsors, and other contributors.
- **First Night Party**—attendees can relax and enjoy music at one of Convention's most enjoyable evenings. This year's "Country Jamboree" event offers attendees a chance to show off their dance moves while dressed up in their best western gear.

Editor: Jonathan Buttrick

President: Jenna Sanders

Executive Director: Diane J. Mancino, EdD, RN, CAE

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For advertising information, contact Todd Anderson, 417-581-2961, or email andersonde-sign@centurytel.net. The next issue is Fall 2009, which closes August 21, 2009.

2009 NSNA Slate of Candidates

By Gerardo Melendez-Torres
Chair and Eastern Election Area Representative,
Nominating and Elections Committee



Melendez-Torres

The National Student Nurses' Association Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC) is pleased to announce the 2009 Slate of Candidates for Board of Directors and Nominating and Elections Committee. Delegates vote for the candidates at the upcoming NSNA Annual Convention in Nashville, TN, April 15-19, 2009.

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 email 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 April 1, 2009. Send in the application by this date and a candidate's packet will be mailed to you. Check out the 2009 Slate:

Presidents

- Melissa Bruno, University of Alabama in Huntsville, AL
- Kenya D. Haney, University of Missouri- St. Louis, MO

Vice President

- Jill Beasley, The Christ College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Cincinnati, OH

Secretary/Treasurer

- Steven J. Jewell, Baptist Health System School of Health Professions, San Antonio, TX
- Denise Landers, University of Virginia School of Nursing, Charlottesville, VA

Imprint Editor:

- Alison Faust, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, New Orleans, LA

Breakthrough to Nursing Director

- Carylin M. Holsey, Lee College, Baytown, TX
- Charlie Lin, West Texas A & M University, Canyon, TX

Director (North)

- Evette D. Eubanks, Research College of Nursing, Kansas City, MO

Director (South):

- Diana Carbone, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University, Atlanta, GA

Director (East) - Vacant

Director (West) - Vacant

Nominating and Elections Committee (North) - Vacant

Nominating and Elections Committee (South)

- Devon L. Ippolito, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University, Atlanta, GA

Nominating and Elections Committee (East)

- Peguy Carilice, The College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY

Nominating and Elections Committee (West) - Vacant

See page 5 for more information on running for national office.



Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The NSNA Board of Directors met November 11 & 12, 2008, during the MidYear Conference. 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 Preparedness, and the State Presidents' update.
- Approved the NSNA Code of Professional Conduct for the NSNA Board of Directors.
- Approved the 2009 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.
- Accepted to select Charlotte, NC, for the Annual Convention site for April 2013.
- Appointed Heather Hyatt Dolan to the Spirit of Nursing Selection Committee.
- Approved continuing involvement in the International Council of Nurses - Nursing Student Network.
- Approved the revised Board of Directors' Travel Policies.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors takes place on April 13, 2009, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center during the Annual Convention.

Staff News

NSNA is proud to announce the arrival of two new staff members:

Carol A. Feters Andersen, MSN, RN

Director of Governance and Program Development

Carol Feters Andersen, NSNA past president (1991-1992), joined the executive staff at NSNA on November 3, 2008. Immediately prior to joining NSNA, she served four years on staff with the National League for Nursing. In her role at NSNA, she will work with nursing student leaders across the country in the areas of governance, legislation/education, disaster preparedness, community health, resolutions, and nominations and elections. Today, she is a doctoral candidate at Teachers College Columbia University, in the Doctor of Education Executive Program for Nurses.

Robert K. Ocran, MPA

Controller

Robert Ocran joined the executive staff at NSNA on January 20, 2009. Mr. Ocran comes to NSNA with experience in West Africa, Italy, the United Kingdom, and New York City. In his role at NSNA, he will direct the financial affairs of the association in addition to working alongside the NSNA Secretary/Treasurer and finance committee of the board of directors. Presently, he is pursuing his MA in Economics/Accounting in Brooklyn, NY.

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"Sure I got credit for my time in India and the clinical work might help me get into medical school. However, the mentality I have developed, my heightened perception of others, an appreciation of diversity and a newfound patience with life are the most important things I will take away from this experience." Nicole Tierney, Infectious Diseases in Mumbai, India

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**Visit us at the 57th Annual NSNA Convention in Nashville, TN
April 15-19, 2009**

AlbertaCanada.com/nursing

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Some *Good News* for a change:

The American Nurses Association
is offering undergraduate student nurses
Members Only access to our official website

Nursingworld.org is a 24/7 RN resource
with nursing history, news, information,
policy, politics, chat and lots more

1. Go to Nursingworld.org
2. Click student nurses (on left)
3. Enter the code STUNUR

Enjoy.



Kimberly Root

are the same attributes the delegates are looking for when evaluating the candidates running for national positions.

If you are beginning your campaign process after being nominated from the floor, showing your enthusiasm for nursing and being a leader in the field can score you a home run! Running from the floor is like playing in Game Seven of the World Series. You need to show up and play to win. There are a few key plays to remember when running from the floor. First, you should enlist the help of a campaign manager. Next, you will need to get your campaigning materials together. Lastly, it's time for you to step up to the plate and show your fellow nursing students what you're made of.

Just like a coach can lead a team to victory a great campaign manager can be a great asset to your campaign. They are your very own cheering section and can help you spread the word about who you are, what position you are running for, and why you would be the best candidate for the position. Most of us are not natural born salespeople so it is always a benefit to have someone that can tout your accomplishments for you. A campaign manager is also an extra pair of hands to help plan and implement your campaign in a short amount of time.

Once you have picked the right "coach" for your team it's time to get your playbook together. After being nominated take some time to sit down with your campaign manager and decide on a strategy that can be put together quickly and that will show the delegates who you

Scouting New Talent

By Kimberly Root, NEC Representative, Western Election Area, Saddleback College, Mission Viejo, CA



are. Become familiar with the rules and regulations of campaigning available in the candidate's packets. The NEC is also available to help with any questions you may have about your campaign. It may be easiest to come up with a catchy phrase or slogan that defines you and build your campaign around that. It may be difficult but not impossible to find and put together campaign materials once at convention. Posters are an easy and quick way to put your name and face (don't forget your photos) in front of the delegates. Be sure to include your name, photo, position you are running for, and your campaign slogan. Utilize brochures that showcase your background, accomplishments, talents, and other details stating why the position you are running for is perfect for you. These are easy to put together and make a great handout to give to delegates while campaigning. If possible, have buttons, pencils or any type of handout with your name and/or slogan on them to make it easy for delegates to remember who you are. Put your campaign speech together and take the time to practice it in front of friends and take advantage of the public speaking practice sessions. Be creative and have fun with your campaign materials.

Once you have all of your materials together it's game time. First and foremost remember that everyone attending the convention is a fellow student who wants to succeed and see others succeed in this great profession. This is your time to shine and showcase your talents. Be confident and friendly when speaking with the delegates. Remember these words from another great manager, Tommy Lasorda: "No matter how good you are, you're going to lose one-third of your games. No matter how bad you are you're going to win one-third of your games. It's the other third that makes the difference." Think of yourself as the pinch hitter and go for that grand slam!



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EOE

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International's Virginia Henderson International Library is the "Hidden Jewel" of Nursing Research

By Leslie Flowers, freelance writer

NSNA Vice President Laura Chapman discovered a hidden jewel in nursing research, and she wants all of her fellow nursing student to know about it. A senior BSN student at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Chapman logs on to the Virginia Henderson International Library at least eight times a week to research her papers and projects. She uses the free library site of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International to gather data, find leading researchers and discover what evidence-based research is available on her topics.

"The Virginia Henderson International Library is an unknown treasure for nursing students," Chapman said. "A lot of my fellow nursing students don't even know it's there, and it is so incredibly helpful for my coursework and research. It's like a hidden jewel." The honor society designed and launched the online Virginia Henderson International Library, www.nursinglibrary.org, to provide free, electronic access to research for nurses around the world. The online repository contains more than 32,000:

- Research studies
- Magnet hospital practice innovations
- Conference abstracts
- Doctor of Nursing practice projects.

Unlike Medline® or university libraries, much of the research posted in the Virginia Henderson International Library has not been published in journals and is not available in any other collection. The Honor Society collaborates with several other nursing research organizations to post their annual conference and congress abstracts, such as projects presented at the 2007 American Nurses Credentialing Center's National Magnet Conference. "The Virginia Henderson International Library is a compilation of the cutting edge research and knowledge that student nurses can take and move out into their practice arenas," said Patricia E. Thompson, RN, EdD, FAAN, honor society chief executive officer. "It is one of the most comprehensive resources for nursing information available." The honor society named the library for Virginia Henderson (1897-1996), an accomplished author, avid researcher and visionary. Henderson is considered by many to be the most important nursing figure in the 20th century for her influence on nursing practice, education and research.

Users of the Virginia Henderson International Library not only have access to nursing research but also the investigators. "The online registry is a directory of who's who in nursing research on particular topics," said librarian Margie Wilson. "When nursing students visit the Virginia Henderson International Library, they 'meet' researchers who are leaders in their field." Contact information for investigators is provided, and students can communicate with them for more information or with questions. Wilson helps users with their searches by email at librarymanager@nursinglibrary.org or phone at (317) 634-8171.

Chapman said she used the library extensively for a Populations course, researching disaster preparedness for the elderly. "I easily found several papers and researchers on the topic, which allowed me to compare regional demographics of this population," Chapman said. "Every nursing student and NSNA member needs to know about this fabulous resource!" The Honor Society is allied with NSNA, Decision Critical, Inc., and the American Nurses Credentialing Center to advance knowledge and leadership for nurses.

Proposed NSNA Bylaws Amendments

Proposed bylaws amendments are voted on at the 2009 NSNA House of Delegates which convenes in Nashville, TN, April 15, 17 and 18, 2009. The following proposed amendments (and rationale) to the NSNA Bylaws were submitted by the Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania by the February 4, 2009 deadline.

Current Bylaws - Article IV

Section 2. Categories of Constituent Membership: Members of the constituent associations shall be:

1. Active Members:

- a) Students enrolled in state approved programs leading to licensure as a registered nurse.
- b) Registered nurses enrolled in programs leading to a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.
- c) Active members shall have all the privileges of membership.

2. Associate Members:

- a) Pre-nursing students, including registered nurses, enrolled in college or university programs designed as preparation for entrance into a program leading to an associate degree, diploma or baccalaureate degree in nursing.
- b) Associate members shall have all the privileges of membership except the right to hold office of president and vice president at state and national levels.

Section 3. Categories of Non-Constituent Membership:

a. Sustaining Members:

Sustaining membership shall be open at the national level to any individual or organization interested in furthering the development and growth of NSNA, upon approval of the Board of Directors. This membership category is not open to those eligible for active and associate membership. Sustaining members shall receive literature and other information from the national office.

Proposed Amendments

Amend Section 2, 1b by striking the entire sentence. Renumber Section 2, 1c to Section 2, 1b.

Amend Section 2, 2a by striking "including registered nurses." The amended sentence would read: Pre-nursing students enrolled in college or university programs designed as preparation for entrance into a program leading to an associate degree, diploma or baccalaureate degree in nursing.

Amend Section 3, 1 by inserting the words, "including, but not limited to, registered nurse enrolled in college or university programs leading to an associate, diploma, or baccalaureate degree" after the word "individual." The amended sentence would then read: Sustaining membership shall be open at the national level to any individual, including, but not limited to, registered nurse enrolled in college or university programs leading to an associate, diploma, or baccalaureate degree, or organization interested in furthering the development and growth of NSNA, upon approval of the Board of Directors.

Rationale

The NSNA is a pre-professional nursing organization, therefore individuals who have attained their registered nursing licensure should not be granted full membership with the same privileges as those students for whom this organization was created. Other organizations represent the needs of registered nurses. These individuals are eligible to join these organizations (i.e. the American Nurses Association). With this amendment, those individuals who are registered nurses enrolled in baccalaureate programs will be able to join NSNA as a sustaining member.

The number of members in this category has never been substantial; therefore the financial implications to NSNA are low. Historically these individuals have served in the elected offices in disproportionately high numbers, which has a negative impact hindering the opportunity for non-licensed students to further their leadership abilities.

Most importantly this bylaw is in conflict with the American Nurses Association and our own policies. NSNA is opposed to professional nursing organizations offering a student membership category, and for years the ANA has agreed not to initiate a student category with voting rights to their membership. NSNA has also urged ANA to recognize their autonomy "as an independent organization and is strongly discouraged from creating a mechanism for voting representation of NSNA chapters, or for any other mechanism for recruiting student nurse members in competition with NSNA." (*Getting the Pieces to Fit*, 2008-2009, p. 30) NSNA must reciprocate by not offering a voting membership category for RNs. A collegial relationship with our professional associations must remain intact.

Above all, registered nurses are considered **professionals** and thus should hold membership in their **professional** organizations, without holding membership in a **pre-professional organization** such as NSNA. At the present time, these individuals are eligible to hold office simultaneously in both the pre-professional and the professional organizations, which is not in the best interest of NSNA, its constituent states or local chapters. It creates a conflict of interest situation.



NATIONAL STUDENT NURSES' ASSOCIATION

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57th Annual Convention April 15-19, 2009

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