

MEMORANDIUM

To: Bylaws and Policies Chairs
From: Liz Patal, NSNA Director, Chair, Bylaws and Policies Committee
Re: Fall Memo
Date: October 7 2009

Hi again fellow Bylaws Chairs and State Board Members! I hope your school year is off to an awesome year and you are looking forward to a fun year of nursing school and empowering your local NSNA chapters!

Since our [Summer Memo](#) the [Bylaws and Policies Committee](#) has been hard at work. Check out our progress towards the committees goals!

Goal #1 Make our members more knowledgeable about the [NSNA Bylaws](#), as well as their own.

As a kick off for the academic year, NSNA launched *Bylaws Awareness Month* this September. See the article, [Bylaws and Policies: Empower your Chapter](#), in the September/October 2009, issue of *Imprint*, p. 22 for more information. We encouraged chapters nationwide to examine their bylaws looking at the areas of conformity, position descriptions, elections procedures and other areas that may need updating and are an important part of creating a strong chapter foundation.

We have also begun collecting policies from state chapters that will soon be available for members to use as samples when creating their own policies, as we launch the new NSNA website. These will help chapters identify areas where they may be missing official policies and of course having examples always helps when starting from scratch. If you have policies you would like to submit for use, please email them to me at directorw@nsna.org, it's a great way to show off your chapters hard work.

Goal #2 Continue Interpretive Statements for the NSNA Code of Ethics: Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct.

The committee has completed a final draft of the [Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct](#) interpretive statements, which will be ready for formal adoption by the NSNA Board of Directors at the [Mid Year Conference](#). This document has been in the works since 2004, so hopefully you are as excited as we are to see the project come to fruition this year.

Goal #3 Update the Bylaws and Policies webpage to include more dynamic and accessible information.

We are making many changes to the [Bylaws web page](#) including adding more links and reorganizing information to facilitate information access, so check it out

later this fall as the new NSNA website is launched! We hope these changes will help make the webpage more informative, organized and easier to navigate. If you have any other suggestions for the Bylaws web page, please email me at directorw@nsna.org, I would love to hear them!

Also, two new Bylaws and Policies courses for [Leadership University](#) have been in the works. The ***Bylaws and Policies Activity*** will soon be posted there, so be sure to see about getting LeadershipU credit for the work you are doing on your committee this year. Tell you committee members too because this is a great way to earn recognition for the leadership activities you are organizing on a local level. Additionally, an Empowering Resolutions course is currently still in production and will be ready by spring 2010.

Goal #4 Assist with member questions or concerns about bylaws and policies.

We are hoping that the revamped web page and sample policies will help members find solutions to their bylaws and policies questions even easier. Also, we are all available for you as a resource to help make working with your bylaws and policies less stressful. So far we have helped chapters edit their proposed bylaws, answer questions about compliance, create new policies and update old ones. If you are having any problems or concerns you would like to go over, again please contact us, you are the reason we got involved in NSNA and we're here for you!

I look forward to hearing from you and I hope to see you all at the [Mid Year Conference](#) in Phoenix, Arizona. Good luck with school and with empowering your chapter this year!

CC: State Presidents
State Consultants
Board of Directors