



HOTLINE

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shelby Jones/President

Hello FNSA Members!

What an exciting week we spent in Salt Lake City at National Convention! The convention was filled with vendors of all kinds and focus sessions to cover every aspect of nursing. The House of Delegates was full of resolutions; we voted on 39 resolutions. All of the resolutions can be found on the NSNA website so be sure to check them out and get ideas for writing resolutions for our State Convention. I spent the day prior to the beginning of the convention in COSP, Council of State Presidents, exchanging ideas with other states regarding policies and procedures, recruitment and retention, and convention ideas. I was able to receive a lot of insightful information that will be implemented soon; so be on the lookout!

For those of you who were not there, I am proud to announce that Florida was the best represented. We credentialed 45 delegates in the House, with Pennsylvania behind us with 34 delegates. GO FLORIDA!!! I would like to thank everyone who made the cross-country trip to share this experience with me. The many of you, who volunteered your

time while you were there to help make the convention run smoothly and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Florida really pulled through to help make this convention what it was....EXCELLENT!



Florida won the Most Successful Community Health Project with our CAPS initiative; if you are not familiar with this program please contact one of the board members to get more information. This is a wonderful program and it has helped thousands of children statewide receive the medical attention they need for their vision. Another special congratulation goes out to University of North Florida who won one of NSNA's Stellar School award. UNF has shown exemplary leadership through FNSA/NSNA and should be commended for their outstanding work.

Do not forget our next meeting is May 28, 2011 at FNA Headquarters at 11:00. Everyone is invited and we would love to have each one of you join us to make sure YOUR voices may be heard.

st Vice President Dudley Deshommès



Greetings and salutations fellow members!

I hope you all are taking care of yourself as this semester draws to an end with finals, moving on to the next semester of nursing school, and graduating. This is an important moment for all of us as we continue our progression in becoming Registered Nurses. For those of you who are graduating, I hope you were able to take advantage of the many opportunities offered at the NSNA national convention in Salt Lake City, UT. For the second time, the national convention was an amazing experience for me. A bonus was that I saw snow for the first time ever. I was able to build new relationships with other fellow nursing students. I was able to obtain information about various graduate schools. I attended focus sessions to help maximize my potential as a student nurse, executive officer, and a better care provider. I heard inspirational speeches from influential professional nurses. In addition, I obtained some ideas for our state convention

The highlight of the convention was the bylaws hearing. The NSNA executive board proposed a bylaws change that would include students attending a state approved LPN/LVN program to become NSNA associate members.

They would have all the privileges as any other member (pre-nursing, ADN, BSN, and RN-BSN) except for running for president or vice president. Ultimately, the House of Delegates became a battlefield. The majority of the delegates did not agree with the proposal. Although the NSNA executive board's intent was commendable and addressed the various recommendations from the IOM report "The Future of Nursing", many delegates argued that LPN/LVN students should be separate from RN prepared program students due to the difference in scope of practice. Nevertheless, a landslide defeated the proposal.

As we prepare for our state convention, please review the bylaws and take note of any recommendations or changes you think need to be addressed. Also, start thinking about any resolutions that you want to propose before the House of Delegates. This helps make our sessions more interesting, especially if there is something you are passionate about. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. If I cannot answer your question, I can direct you to the right person. E-mail: fnsa_1stvp@yahoo.com. Thank you and best wishes.



PENNIES PRN SUMMER CAMPAIGN **ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?**

Raise money for nursing scholarships! Collect as much as you can for Pennies PRN at your schools this summer and bring it to the Pre-Convention Workshop in September. You can announce your totals during Pre-Convention in September and the money collected will be submitted at the FNSA Convention. An award will be given to the school that has collected the most Pennies at the FNSA Convention. The Race is on! Let us see who can be on top by Pre-Convention. GOOD LUCK!!!

Collecting LOOSE CHANGE during Summer turns Into FALL SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

Mariana Ortigosa
FNSA Treasurer

Region 1 Director/Membership Chair

Tami Williams/Region 1

I would like to thank each one of you who attended this year's National Convention in Salt Lake City! You all helped to make Florida the most well represented state in the House of Delegates, with 45 delegates counted! I also want to thank those of you who took the time to be delegates, poster presenters, speakers to resolutions and volunteers throughout the week. Without you, the convention would not have been as successful as it was. Florida could not have been better represented. Also congratulations to the individual award winners and to the schools receiving awards. For those of you who were not able to attend convention you missed a great convention and I hope to see you at our state convention in October.

I was fortunate enough to have time during the busy week to attend several information sessions about membership and ideas on the individual chapter level for increasing membership and involvement. If anyone has any questions or is looking for any ideas please feel free to contact me. I hope everyone is having a wonderful rest of the semester and looking forward to the summer!

NSNA is Just the Tip of the Iceberg

Murielle Joseph

Region 2 Director/Communications Chair

Greetings to my fellow Florida nursing students!

National Convention was April 6-10, 2011 in Salt Lake City, Utah, and it was great to meet so many of you from Florida, as well as nursing students from across the great Nation of ours!

My experience at convention strengthened my belief in the importance of membership in the nursing professional organizations, such as the American Nurses Association (ANA). It is awesome that while we are in school, we are passionate and active members of our local, state, and national nursing organizations, but I would like to encourage you not to let that passion die once you graduate.

There are over 3.1 million nurses in the U.S.—more than any other healthcare profession—however, there are only a few thousand members of a national nursing organization. These professional organizations are our voice to our state and national



legislators, who determine (instead of our education) the scope of our practice among other issues that directly affect the profession of nursing and nursing care. Of the current 56,000 members of NSNA (which is only a fraction of actual nursing students), only a few of those will go on to become members of these organizations that have our best interests at heart.

Right now, we are students and we enjoy campus life, including the organizations we join. But the National Student Nurses Association is more than another club—it is a pre-professional organization, which leads to membership in a professional organization. Too often nursing students graduate and forget about the experiences and doors that NSNA membership opened to them as they get caught up in finding jobs and establishing their careers. Let us be the class to change that. Let us be the group of passionate nursing students to become passionate nurse leaders who ensure that our voice and the voice of our patients are heard.

Region 3/BTN

Nicole Couzzo

Hello FNSA members,

This past month we attended the NSNA National Convention. If you attended, I hope you had an amazing time and took advantage of all the great focus sessions! If you were not able to make it, I have brought back several great BTN ideas that I hope you will be able to implement on your campus. So please look at our website for those, and if you have any questions about how you can start a BTN committee at your school or how to plan a BTN event, feel free to contact me at FNSA_region3@yahoo.com.

Best of luck with your upcoming finals!



Region 6 Director/Legislative Chair

Limor Wienburg

It was such a privilege to be able to attend National Convention in Salt Lake City this year and represent Barry University as well as the FNSA! It was exciting to see fellow nursing students share such a passion and enthusiasm for making a difference in the future of the nursing profession. I met some great people from mine and other regions and I am looking forward to this year's state convention. It will be fantastic

Region 7/Resolutions

Joshua Bundy

Hello Sunny Florida! It feels great to be writing this in the Florida sunshine after being in the Utah snow for a week! Thank you to everyone from Florida who made the long flight to attend the National Student Nurse Association convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Our state had an amazing turn out, and I was very proud to see how well Florida was represented especially, considering how far the convention was from our state.

For those of you who could not attend, National was a big success. Convention this year had so many great speakers and focus sessions it seemed like there really was a focus session for every interest you could have in nursing. For those of you who either have never attended a national convention or never really thought about attending one, I really encourage you all to think about going to the next one. Conventions are a great way to network and meet new people within the field and also really re-energize you and invigorate you about nursing. For those of us who are seniors, like myself, they really serve as a great "pick-me-up" after a long schooling journey. I hope all of you think about attending the state convention in beautiful Daytona Beach this year!

Outside of convention activities, the Florida delegation had an amazing time in Salt Lake City. For many of us it was our first time seeing snow. The students from my school, Seminole State College of Florida, who attended had their first snow ball fights and made their first snow angels and snowmen. It really was an amazing experience for us all.

Region 4 / Community Health

Lisa Fussell

National convention was amazing! I gained some fabulous ideas regarding Community Health. Many school chapters expressed having tons of ideas for events but struggle implementing them. I would like to offer some ideas for implementation in this article.

Funding is a common obstacle. Sponsorship from community hospitals for funding is obvious, but sometimes it is necessary to think outside the box and seek sponsorship from other community businesses and organizations, such as grocery stores, churches, uniform stores, etc. Also, sending letters for donations is great, but it's more effective to make requests in person. Remember to dress professionally and bring a copy of your chapter's tax exemption letters for their charitable donations.

Media coverage is a wonderful tool for implementing a successful community health event. Event promotion is necessary in order to obtain maximum participation as well as to entice additional sponsors. Writing a press release is free and can offer maximum exposure. I challenge each chapter to learn how to write a press release and implement that practice to promote future events. Also, please continue to promote events with the usual methods of flyers, announcements, etc.

Best wishes to you all as you continue to proudly serve your communities!



How far you go in life
depends on your being tender
with the young,

compassionate with the aged,
sympathetic with the striving
and tolerant of the weak and
the strong.

Because someday in life you
will have been all of these.

- George Washington Carver

Corresponding Secretary

Denise Knapp

I just attended my first national Convention and it was full of exciting encouragement from the opening ceremony to the closing. It filled with me encouragement about the profession I have chosen. I hope everyone who attended the National Convention had a great time. For those of you who were unable to attend I encourage you to attend the upcoming State Convention in October.

On another note, we would like to hear what your schools are doing and share it with the rest of FNSA in the spotlight, so submit your article and pictures to FNSAcorrespondingsec@yahoo.com.

Con-GRAD-ulations!

Some of you will be graduating very soon and FNA invites you to become a FNA member! Remember, your first year of FNA membership is FREE and your second year is half off. You can even apply the ADP monthly deduction to your second year of membership now and spread it out over two years! That is only \$7 per month for two years of FNA membership! Please visit www.floridanurse.org to become a member or email info@floridanurse.org for an application. Although your membership is FREE, it is imperative for you to fill out an application so that we can give your free membership to you. **It is not automatic.**

If you have any pinning ceremonies or other graduation events, please let FNA know so that we can provide new FNA members with pins and possibly even send a local FNA representative. Please either ask your professors to send the dates over to FNA, or send the dates over yourself, to conferences@floridanurse.org. Be sure to include the name of your school, the date, and the time of your graduation event.



**FLORIDA NURSES
ASSOCIATION**

Scholarships Available – Need \$\$\$?

The Florida Nurses Foundation scholarship cycle is open!!!

Visit floridanurse.org/grantupload for the application process. The application deadline is June 1, 2011 and recipients will be notified of awards in September 2011. Scholarships range from \$500 - \$750. Email foundation@floridanurse.org for more information.

Florida New Graduates: FNA Wants Your Input

Please go to

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BVGP3CAZM/> to complete a short survey about your experience as a new grad! Your participation will help us create services and activities for new grads.

FNA Updates

Want to know what else FNA is up to? Here are some easy ways to keep track of FNA initiatives:

- Like FNA on Facebook at facebook.com/floridanursesassociation
- Follow FNA on Twitter at [@FLNurses](http://twitter.com/FLNurses)
- Become a friend on FNA on MySpace at myspace.com/floridanursesassociation