The Florida Nurse
Volume 67 • No. 2
OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE FLORIDA NURSES FOUNDATION
CIRCULATION 309,000 TO EVERY REGISTERED NURSE & NURSING STUDENT IN FLORIDA
June 2019

Mission Statement
Serve and support all Registered Nurses through professional development, advocacy and the promotion of excellence in every area of professional nursing practice.

FNA does not endorse advertised products, services, or companies, nor any claims made in paid advertisements. The Florida Nurse is proudly brought to you by FNA dues paying members.

This constitutes the official notice of the 2019 Membership Assembly of the Florida Nurses Association, September 13-14, 2019 at the Mission Inn Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills, FL for the purpose of transacting the official business of the Association.

The theme for the conference is Creating Connections: Transforming the Future. The face of healthcare is constantly evolving with advanced research, new innovations, and improved technology. At the front-lines of healthcare, Nurses are helping to lead this transformation.

Join us at this year’s assembly for dynamic presentations centered around transformations in healthcare and nursing. Here’s a highlight of some of the presentation topics: Transforming the Future through Florida Nurses on Boards: A Call to Action; How Transformational Leadership Influences Staff Relationship and Care; Changing Nursing Culture to Address Unit Staffing, RN Turnover, and Improve Patient Outcomes; Physical Activity Habits for Nurses; Health: Connections Matter. To see more of the conference program, go to www.floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly.

This year’s keynote presentation “Call to Action – Influencing Policy” will be presented by Janet Haebler, MSN, RN of the American Nurses Association.

As Senior Associate Director for Policy & State Government Affairs with the American Nurses Association (ANA), Janet serves as a resource to the state nurses associations in their efforts to advance their legislative and regulatory agendas. Throughout her forty-eight years’ experience in nursing, Janet held numerous staff and leadership positions in a variety of settings: acute, long-term and home care, managed care, and academia. She has dedicated the past 18 years to the policy and advocacy arena; first at the state level, before joining ANA. While with the New York State Nurses’ Association, she was responsible for the Practice & Government Affairs program; during which time, Janet and her team celebrated such legislative successes as title “nurse” protection and safe patient handling & mobility. In addition to a number of other initiatives, her portfolio includes the number one issue for direct care nurses – safe staffing. Ten years ago, Janet launched the American Nurses Advocacy Institute, a year-long mentored program designed to develop nurse’s political competence. Janet completed her undergraduate degree in nursing at Russell Sage College in New York and master’s degree in nursing with a concentration in administration at Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

2019 Call to Membership Assembly
Creating Connections: Transforming the Future

Janet Haebler
MSN, RN, American Nurses Association

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Board of Nursing Update .................................................... 15
The Florida Nurse Board and Staff are pleased to report robust positive first quarter of 2019. We began the year with implementation of a robust strategic plan and achieved the first major goal of adopting a member-friendly membership program which included a new online platform with many beneficial features.

We have had a positive response from members and other visitors as we have expanded our major goal of enhancing the member experience through the latest technology. We have also ramped up our efforts to engage new and returning members and are working to continue this positive trend for the rest of the year.

We have revitalized our Star Recruiter Member Campaign and invited new board members to join the task force to assist with orientation of new chief executive directors in a newly-formed district or region and contributed to the need for additional board member engagement and participation.

Byron Smith and West Central Region Director Carmen "Vicky" Framil, DNP, ARNP, ANP-BC, are leading this charge and we are grateful for their continued support of the Florida Nurse Association.

The Florida Nurses Foundation is in the process of accepting scholarship and research grant applications. We encourage our members to apply for the $10,000 level. Foundation President George Byrd and Region Directors are pleased to announce the fund created and named in honor of Willa Fuller, RN, Executive Director, that invited questions and created great discussion among the attendees.

Do you want to recognize an ICONIC nurse colleague? Please go learn about our special 2019 FNA ICON Awards at http://www.floranurse.org/ICONAWARDS

This recognition is open to members and non-members to celebrate our 110th Anniversary.

Willa Fuller, RN

Editor – Katlin Scabarry, 1225 E. Concord Street, Orlando, FL 32803-5003

Subscription available at $20.00 plus tax, per year. Members receive the newspaper as a benefit of membership. COPIES of The Florida Nurse are available on 35mm microfilm and index issue copies through Bell & Howell, 300 North Zeedt, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

Board of Directors 2017–2019

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North Central
Northeast Vacant Position
Shirley Hill, RN, BC, East Central
Janice Adams, DNP, MPA, RN, West Central
Susan Torres, MSN, RN, NHCRM, Southwest
Carmen "Vicky" Framil, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, South

Dieter Edelmann, Geriatric Nurse Practitioner, RSSN

Director of Recent Graduates
Hannah McRoberts, BSN, RN

FNA Office
Willa Fuller, BSN, RN, Executive Director
John Berry, Jr., of the Labor Relations & Government Affairs
Katlin Scabarry, Associate Director of Programs, Technology, and Membership Marketing
2019 Calendar of Events

View full calendar at www.floridanurse.org/events

Webinar: Disaster Preparedness for Nurses
June 5, 2019 6pm EST / 5pm CST
Online

North Central Region New Grad Meetup
June 8, 2019 5-7pm EST
V Pizza & Sidecar, Gainesville, FL

Webinar: Measles Update for Nurses
June 12, 2019 7pm EST / 6pm CST
Online

Foundations of Therapeutic Touch
June 28-29, 2019
FNA Office, Orlando, FL

5th Annual FNA Research & Evidence-Based Practice Conference
July 13, 2019
Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando, FL

Webinar: Mentoring as a Tool to Address RN Turnover
July 25, 2019
Online

FNA Election 2019 Voting
August 1-15, 2019
Online Ballots

FNA Annual Membership Assembly
September 13-14, 2019 (Bonus CE Sessions on Sept. 12)
Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills, FL

LGBTQ Conference
September 21, 2019
St. Petersburg College Allstate Center, St. Petersburg, FL

South Region Legislative/Healthy Policy Forum
October 14, 2019
Location TBA

West Central Region Meeting
October 17, 2019
Nova Southeastern, Clearwater, FL

Florida Nursing Students Association Annual Convention
October 24-26, 2019
Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, Daytona Beach, FL

FNA Webinars Now Available on Demand!
Go to www.floridanurse.org/ProfessionalDevelopment for more info.

We welcome all nursing students and Registered Nurses regardless of membership status to all of our events unless otherwise noted. For registration and more information about FNA events, go to www.floridanurse.org/events

Call for Abstracts
For Poster Presentation

The FNA Board of Directors is committed to supporting and showcasing colleagues conducting nursing research. FNA members are invited to submit abstracts for a poster presentation at the FNA Membership Assembly to be held on September 13-14, 2019 at the Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills, FL.

Abstracts can describe completed research, research in progress, or a research design. Abstracts for qualitative and quantitative studies and special projects are welcome! Abstracts will be peer-reviewed by members of The Research Special Interest Group. Submissions are due Monday, July 15, 2019. For submission guidelines and forms, go to www.floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly.

Call for Reference Proposals

FNA Reference Proposals allow constituent groups (Regions, Units, FNPAC, Foundation, etc.) as well as individual members to voice their concerns or express their thoughts on matters of significance to nursing, nurses, and health needs of the public. Reference Proposals include a statement of concern, rationale, a statement of position and recommended actions. Proposals are reviewed at Membership Assembly and if adopted may develop into an official position statement of the Association.

The Reference Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2019 Membership Assembly, September 13-14th in Howey-in-the-Hills, FL. All proposals are due by August 1st to info@floridanurse.org. To view submission guidelines and see past proposals go to www.floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly.

Bylaws Notice

The FNA Bylaws are under review by the Bylaws Committee. To see the proposed amendments go to www.floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly. Members must be logged in to view the proposed bylaws changes document. Voting on the proposed changes will take place at the 2019 Membership Assembly.

Call for Award Nominations
Nominate Your Nursing Peers for an ICON Award

FNA is seeking nominations for the 2019 FNA ICON Awards to recognize the contribution of outstanding nurses who live and practice in Florida. This is a special awards recognition to celebrate our 110 years of nursing excellence. A maximum of four (4) honorees will be selected for each category. The categories are: Clinical Nursing, Community Nursing, Administrative Nursing, Advocacy, Nursing Research, Education, Entrepreneur, Mentor/Role Model, Personal ICON, and Other. Nominators must submit a written testimony indicating the way the nurse demonstrates the behaviors that define the nomination category. For detailed descriptions of each category, go to www.floridanurse.org/awards. Deadline for submissions is July 5th. All nominations are to be submitted through the FNA website.

FNU's innovative and affordable programs are designed to enhance your career. Learn more at frontier.edu

Answer the call.
Become a Nurse-Midwife or Nurse Practitioner

Earn an MSN or DNP through our Innovative Distance Education Programs

Specialties Offered:
- Nurse-Midwife
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

FLORIDA NURSES ASSOCIATION
FNA
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Vice President  

Patricia Gursky For the position of President-Elect  
Promotion of evidence-based care, nursing research, and interdisciplinary collaboration to improve patient outcomes in Florida. Focus on improving patient safety through employee engagement in performance improvement processes. Finally, supporting initiatives for succession planning to cultivate Florida Nurse Leaders to allow for a consistent, strong, Florida Nurse voice in governmental legislation.

Region: Northeast  
School(s) of Nursing: College of Lake County (Illinois), Walden University  
Degree(s): AAS – Nursing; MSN – Leadership and Management  
Place of Employment and Position: UF Health Jacksonville – Division Director, Perioperative Services  
Professional Organizational Activities: Member American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE); Member Nurse Executive Team Council; American College of Healthcare Executives Nurse voice in governmental legislation.

Janice Adams For the position of President-Elect  
Since January 2016, I have been the West Central Region Director. During this time, the WCEN Region was re-established and grew in membership. I have observed the many functions at FNA during leadership meetings. I would like to be a part of this leadership team moving FNA to the next phase. Increasing membership and involvement from Florida nurses is important to the profession.

Region: West Central  
School(s) of Nursing: Sentara Norfolk General School of Professional Nursing, Old Dominion University, Troy State University, American Sentinel University  
Degree(s): DNP, MPA, BSN  
Place of Employment and Position: Arizona College-Tampa Campus – Dean  
Professional Organizational Activities: FNA West Central Region Director; Florida Action Coalition Board Service Mentor Coordinator; American Nurses Association Subcommittee on Awards

President-Elect  

Justin Wilkerson For the position of Vice President  
As Vice-President I would endeavor to utilize the knowledge I have gained as an FNA board member to increase the membership of our organization and work with FNA staff and board of directors to judiciously employ the resources of our organization to continue the implementation of our strategic plan.

Region: West Central  
School(s) of Nursing: Florida Gateway College, University of Florida, University of Texas, Arlington  
Degree(s): BSN, ASN, Board Certified in Acute Critical Care Nursing, Cardiac Medicine Nursing, Gerontological Nursing, and Hospice/Palliative Nursing  
Place of Employment and Position: Department of Veteran Affairs MCU/CCU – Registered Nurse; Santa Fe College – Adjunct Assistant Professor, Nursing Programs  
Professional Organizational Activities: Member of system-wide committees on Professional Practice, Evidence-Based Practice, and Nursing Quality; Florida Nurses Association: North Central Region Director (2017-current), Reference Committee Member (2015-2019), Finance Committee Member, Membership Committee Member, Legislative Rapid Response Task Force, and Social Media Task Force; Florida Nursing Students Association 1st Vice-President and Bylaws Committee Chair (2012-2013), Region II Director & Reference Committee Chair (2011-2012); Member – American Nurses Association: Member – American Association; Member – Hospice & Palliative Nurses Association

C. Victoria Framil Suarez For the position of Secretary  
I have been an FNA member since 2006. During that time I have served as the Health Policy Special Interest Group Chair, been inducted into the Florida Nurse Leadership Academy, and served for two years as the South Region Director. I am committed to advancing the profession of nursing.

Region: South  
School(s) of Nursing: University of Florida, Florida International University  
Degree(s): DNP, MSN, BSN  
Place of Employment and Position: Florida International University Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences – Clinical Assistant Professor; Miami Jewish Health Systems – Nurse Practitioner  
Professional Organizational Activities: Florida Nurses Association South Region Director (2017-2019); Miami Dade School Health Advisory Committee; AANP Member since 2008; Sigma Theta Tau Member since 2008

Secretary  

Camille Baldwin For the position of President-Elect  
I will work to ensure professional development and advocate for all professional nurses. My goal is to keep all nurses informed of the issues for the state of Florida. The qualities to fulfill the position I possess are: excellent communication skills, dependability, team player, creativity, and organizational skills.

Region: Southwest  
School(s) of Nursing: Florida Atlantic University; West Texas A&M University  
Degree(s): Doctorate of Education, Master of Science Nursing, Bachelor of Science Nursing  
Place of Employment and Position: Nova Southeastern University – Clinical Coordinator/Assistant Professor  
Professional Organizational Activities: Sigma Theta Tau Upsilon Chi Chapter - Counselor Delegate, Governance Committee; FNA Nominating Committee

Treasurer  

Mavra Kear For the position of Treasurer  
It is essential to maintain the viability of the FNA: the only nursing organization that advocates for all registered nurses in the state regardless of education level or specialty. My 35 year commitment to the organization draws me back to the treasurer role to help ensure financial stability.

Region: West Central  
School(s) of Nursing: University of South Florida, University of Florida  
Degree(s): PhD, Nursing, MSN, BSN  
Place of Employment and Position: Peace River Center – APRN  

Directors at Large (Regional)  

East Central  

Shirley Hill For the position of President-Elect  
I want to support and promote the Florida Nurses Association. As a member who has served two terms as a Board Member, I can bring my experiences to enhance the association.

Region: East Central  
School(s) of Nursing: University of Central Florida  
Degree(s): BSN, AS  
Place of Employment and Position: Retired  
Professional Organizational Activities: Current East Central Region Director, FNA
**North Central**

**Marsha Martin**
For the position of North Central Region Director

I would like to represent bedside nursing in my region and state. Workplace violence is an epidemic that needs to be addressed and remedied as well as our staffing crisis. We need to engage and represent of nursing. Our backbone is the bedside nurse.

Region: North Central  
School(s) of Nursing: Albert Einstein Med Center  
Degree(s): Diploma Nursing  
Place of Employment and Position: UF Health Shands – Staff Nurse  
Professional Organizational Activities: North Central Region Director, Florida Nurses Association (2015-2017); President UF Health Unit, FNA/OPEIU Local 713; Co-chair LERG, FNA; past President, UF Health Shands Local.

**South**

**Anne Llewellyn**
For the position of South Region Director

I would like to help to raise the visibility of nurses and the important role they play in healthcare and our community. As a nurse leader in the area of case management, I feel I can work with my fellow nursing colleagues to assist nurses to reach their full potential.

Region: South  
School(s) of Nursing: Nursing – Hahnemann University, Bachelors in Health Services – Barry University, Masters – University of St. Francis  
Degree(s): Masters in Training and Development; Bachelors in Health Services; Associate Degree in Nursing  
Place of Employment and Position: Retired  
Professional Organizational Activities: South Florida Case Management Network (President), Case Management Society of America, Patient Advocate Certification Board

**Northeast**

**Patricia McAnally**
For the position of Northeast Region Director

As a director of the NE Florida Region, I would like to advocate for the Nurses in both our region and our state, to work with stakeholders to prevent violence toward nurses and to help to educate our state and federal government officials of the true role of Nurse at the bedside and the part they play in quality of patient care and present patient outcomes.

Region: Northeast  
School(s) of Nursing: ASN Parkland College, Champaign, Illinois; BSN University of Phoenix Arizona; MSN Jacksonville University  
Degree(s): MSN, BSN, ASN  
Place of Employment and Position: St. Johns River State College – Nursing Faculty  
Professional Organizational Activities: Student Nurse Association faculty lead, St. Johns River State College

**Northwest**

**Jill Van Der Like**
For the position of Northwest Region Director

I want to advocate for my nursing profession and be a role model to students.

Region: Northwest  
School(s) of Nursing: University of Miami, University of West Florida, University of South Alabama, Pensacola State College  
Degree(s): DNP, MSN/Education, BSN, ASN  
Place of Employment and Position: University of West Florida – Clinical Assistant Professor; Nursing Skills & Simulation Learning Center – Director  
Professional Organizational Activities: FNA Northwest Region Director (current); National League for Nursing; American Nurses Association; Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

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To learn more about RN positions with AHCA in your area; visit our job site at:

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https://jobs.myflorida.com/index.html
Jason Dunne
For the position of South Region Director

It is my desire to continue to build upon the work that has been done in strengthening and building a unified voice for nurses across the state. I would like to encourage and empower nurses to become engaged in the FNA and have a voice at the table in helping to shape policy and practice from the bedside to the legislature.

Region: South
School(s) of Nursing:
Degree(s): DNP – Educational Leadership; MSN, BSN
Certification in Critical Care Nursing

Professional Organizational Activities: Board Member – Nursing Consortium of South Florida, Member – South Florida Organizational of Nurse Executives, Founding Member – Chamberlain University Miramar, Member – American Assembly of Men in Nursing Chapter; Member – National League for Nursing, Member – American Nurses Association, Member – Sigma Theta Tau International, Appointed to National League of Nurses Executives, Member – American Organization of Nurses Executives, Member – Sigma Theta Tau International, Appointed to National League of Nursing Awards Committee, Board Member Fort Lauderdale Community Appearance Board, Founding Board Member – Chamberlain University Miramar American Assembly of Men in Nursing Chapter

Southeast
Darlene Edic-Crawford
For the position of Southeast Region Director

I have served in multiple nursing capacities over the last 29 years. I have always considered myself an Advance Practice Nurse and not a Junior Doctor. I have held positions that have taught me more than I can ever give back. I want to advocate for and celebrate my fellow nurses.

Region: Southeast
School(s) of Nursing: University of Florida, University of Miami, Robert Morris University – Pittsburgh
Degree(s): DNP, MSN, BSN

Place of Employment and Position: Independent contract APRN Hospitalist; Nocturnist for Tent Physician Services (per Diem); Adjunct Professor, MSN Program, South University; Business owner, Your Nurse in Touch

Professional Organizational Activities: President of the Broward county FNA (1990s); Vice President of the Palm Beach County FNA (1996); State Board of Directors FNA (1994-96); State Nominating Committee Chair (1997); Current Southeast Region Director FNA

Southwest
Susan Torres
For the position of Southwest Region Director

Goals for this office - to meet the goals set in 2018 for the SW Region of education regarding:
- a. the legislative process, specifically for bills that impact nursing practice across the nurse practice continuum.
- b. diversity and sustaining civility in all work settings.
- c. the LGBTQ population’s needs in the healthcare setting.
- d. Medical marijuana with patients, nursing students and nurses in the workplace and the legal

Region: Southwest
School(s) of Nursing: Englewood Hospital School of Nursing, Seton Hall University, Monmouth University

Degree(s):
- RN Diploma, BSN, and Masters in Nursing Education

Place of Employment and Position: Florida SouthWestern State College, Professor of Nursing, RN to BSN Program

Professional Organizational Activities: Florida Nurses Association – Southwest Region Director (17-19); Florida Teacher’s Union Bargaining Committee; Sigma International Nursing Honor Society, past Secretary Tau Zeta Chapter; Lead Sigma member in developing a Sigma chapter at FSU; FSW Nursing Honor Society faculty liaison, Legislative Liaison

West Central
Lottie Cuthbertson
For the position of West Central Region Director

I want the position as West Coast region director to be an advocate for our nursing community. I will inform the nursing population of changes and updates to nursing laws, standard, and practice. While in office, I will focus on increasing membership and participation with the FNA in the WC region.

Region: West Central
School(s) of Nursing: Florida A&M University, University of Phoenix
Degree(s): MSN, BSN

Place of Employment and Position: CWY Bill Young VAMC/Bay Pines VAMC – Community Health Nurse Coordinator

Professional Organizational Activities: Lead Faith Community Nurse St. Anthony’s Hospital Baycare (2011-2019); Black Nurses Rock – St. Petersburg Florida Vice President, President (2016-2019); Sigma Theta Tau International Rho Lappa Bylaws chairperson (2014-2016)

Nominating Committee
(Five Positions)

Randy Jackson
For the position of Nominating Committee

As the current representative on the nominating committee from the East Central Region, I would like to build on the experience and enhance my abilities to encourage individuals to run for office to represent Florida Nurses Association. As nursing faculty we should not only encourage participation in professional organizations, but role-model these behaviors in an effort to mentor students beyond academia into practice.

Region: East Central
School(s) of Nursing: Valencia Community College (now State College and University of Central Florida)
Degree(s): ADN, BSN, MSN

Place of Employment and Position: Seminole State College of Florida – Professor of Nursing

Maria Perez
For the position of Nominating Committee

I am dedicated to improving healthcare and safety in our community. I believe I can contribute to improving education, recruitment, retention and the improvement of nurses’ well-being. At this time in my life I am available to serve and initiate changes to improve nursing profession, dedicate time to a leadership position.

Region: South
School(s) of Nursing: Miami-Dade Community College, Barry University, Florida Atlantic University
Degree(s): ASN, BSN, MSN, PhD

Place of Employment and Position: West Coast University – Faculty

Professional Organizational Activities: Pfizer initiative for Pneumococcal Vaccine in Hispanics committee; National Hispanic Nurses Association Secretary, Miami Chapter
Jean Ansley
For the position of Representative to ANA Membership Assembly

Goals: Being able to talk with other nurses throughout the USA regarding nursing topics and/or agenda. Being a voice for nursing.

Region: West Central
Place of Employment and Position: Retired Professional Organizational Activities: West Central Ohio Nurses Association (ONA) President and Board Member;ONA Board of Directors, Finance Committee;ONA Delegate to ANA Membership Assembly

Jean Davis, EdD, DNP, FNP-BC, PH CNS-BC
Chair, FNA Special Interest Group

As I write this article Florida’s 2019 legislative session is about to close. A bill authorizing Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) was filed again this year but did not advance. More inclusive, New York’s POLST law – Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment, goes into effect in May 2019 (molst.org). Identified as a POLST paradigm program, POLST supports health care providers, including APRNs, having conversations and making shared decisions with their seriously ill patients based on the patient health status, prognosis, and wishes. Orders are then written for end of life measures both agree are appropriate whether they are life sustaining or not (molst.org).

Rep. SHELTON 727-734-6734
Port Charlotte, FL
Serve those who have served

Dr. Jane Davis is the FNA Ethics Special Interest Group Chair. FNA Ethics has regular Zoom meeting to discuss the pros and cons of Florida’s bill again this year. Shared decision making between health care providers and patients or surrogates is ideal ethically in terms of patient autonomy and the social contract between patients and providers. POLST laws allow these decisions to be ordered by the healthcare provider in a way that is portable and honored in health care facilities but also in the community. POLST is different from the State of Florida DNR form in that whether the decision is to have or not have various life-sustaining treatments would be documented on a POLST order form, if POLST becomes law in Florida in the future.

The FNA Ethics group has regular Zoom meetings. An open forum period during each meeting provides time for discussion of important issues such as POLST – pros, cons, ethical considerations. We look forward to working with our colleagues in the FNA Health Policy group, APRN groups, and physicians to inform and support inclusive legislation such as POLST to benefit Floridians in their time of need.

Stefanie Lamanna
For the position of Nominating Committee

I would like to recruit Nursing from all levels to a leadership position and have the voices heard. Encourage our future Nurse professionals to be empowered and lead our great Nursing profession.

Region: Southeast
Schools of Nursing: University PA, Kaplan University, Barry University, Broward Community College
Degree(s): Post Masters AGACNP, EPH-Epidemiology, PhD, MSN-FNP, BSN, ASN
Place of Employment and Position: Nova Southeastern University – Program Director PhD/DNP/Acute Care/Infectious Disease Associate – APRN
Professional Organizational Activities: Palm Bch NP Council; S FL Advance Practice Council, Florida Nurses Association; National organization Nurse Practitioner Faculty and Faculty Preceptor Development Committee; AANP; ANA; Associate of Clinical Research Professionals

Janegale Boyd
For the position of Nominating Committee

Region: North Central
School(s) of Nursing: Tallahassee Community College
Degree(s): ADN
Place of Employment and Position: Professional Organizational Activities: President, Florida Nurses Association (current)
Douglas Davis Elected 2019-2020 President of the National Student Nurses’ Association

Brooklyn, NY – April 25, 2019. The National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) is pleased to announce the election of Douglas Davis as the 2019-2020 NSNA President. The elections were announced on April 6, 2019 during the 67th Annual Convention in Salt Lake City, UT. Mr. Davis is a student nurse at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL.

Prior to his election, Mr. Davis served as a Region II Director for the Florida Nursing Students Association. He was also the Legislative Committee Chair for the Florida Student Nursing Association. Mr. Davis is a U.S. Army combat veteran and has served extensively overseas in conflict zones. He was also formerly a police officer for the New York Police Department. With these experiences, he hopes to move on to work as an emergency nurse or emergency nurse practitioner.

As NSNA President, Mr. Davis serves as chair of the NSNA Executive Committee, as a member of the NSNA Finance Committee, and as ex-officio member of the Foundation of the NSNA Board of Trustees. Mr. Davis says, “I am both overwhelmed and humbled that my fellow nursing students from all across the country chose me to represent them, and to lead the Board of Directors in advancing the mission of NSNA for the coming year. With an incredibly talented Board from a vast array of backgrounds, I believe the Board members will each bring something unique to their positions. They’ve already started to cement as a team with a single-minded focus of improving and growing NSNA.”

“Nursing is a profession of continuous research, innovation and evidence-based practice. Nurses are continuously striving to ensure they are providing the best possible care for their patients,” he adds. “As president of the NSNA, it is my desire to apply their relentless passion for innovation to the organization to ensure we are constantly striving to meet members’ needs. Over the coming year, I hope to build on the strengths and legacy of the organization, and also aspire to reach new goals and forge new partnerships. I think it is going to be an amazing year.”

Abbygail Łapiński, UCF
President FSNA

Greetings FNA Members!

On behalf of the Florida Nursing Students Association, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for your continued commitment to the nursing profession. It was an honor to proudly recognize the impressive impact each of you has made as registered nurses through this year’s National Nurses Week. Thank you for being an inspiration to our education and clinical practice. The journey to becoming a nurse is not easy but having the support of professional nurses both in the classroom and clinical setting is instrumental in helping us make the transition.

As President, it is my honor to provide an update on our involvement with the organization and share the incredible accomplishments of our chapter and members. During the first week of April 2019, one hundred and seventy-one Florida nursing students traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to attend the 67th Annual NSNA Convention. Themed “Ignite your Passion: Lighting the Way for Excellence,” students had the opportunity to listen to inspiring leaders in the nursing profession, gain knowledge of various topics through focus sessions, and develop initiatives related to the national level.

Forty-eight students served as representatives of the state in the annual House of Delegates meeting discussing and voting on bylaw changes, resolutions, organizational matters, and candidates for the 2019-2020 NSNA Executive Board. Through these sessions, Florida students spoke passionately about their resolution topics and successfully passed two resolutions at the national level. In recognition of their dedication and accomplishments, I have included the titles and associated chapter here for you to read.

Title: Increase awareness for nursing students on the use of cochlear implant based on deaf culture
Students Nurses Association at the University of Florida North Florida

• Authored by: Amy Bosman and Anna Sorensen

Title: Increasing autism awareness throughout healthcare to facilitate early identification and coordination of interventions before age two.

Students Nurses Association at the University of Florida North Florida

• Authored by: Sabrina St. Martin, Raquel Mannino

During the opening and closing ceremonies, member and chapters of FNSA were recognized for receiving awards and honors from NSNA. We are proud of their accomplishments and would like to acknowledge them below.

• NSNA/Nurse.com Essay Contest 1st Place: Kailey Kubish, University of Central Florida Daytona
• School Instagram Social Media Award: Polk State College
• NSNA Stellar Chapter Renewal: Students Nurses Association at University of Central Florida Orlando

As an organization, we were honored to be awarded the State Excellence Award this year for Group 5. This award represents the standard of excellence set by our members and chapters and the continual support of faculty all across the state.

Finally, it is my pleasure to introduce you to two FNSA members who will be representing Florida on a national level as 2019-2020 Executive Board Members for the NSNA. Kori Nymon of Rasmussen College was elected to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. Doug Davis of the University of North Florida and prior Region 2 Director and Legislative Chair of FNSA was elected to serve as NSNA’s President. We congratulate them on their accomplishments and look forward to seeing them grow as leaders with NSNA.

Next year, we are humbled and excited to be the hosting state of 2020 NSNA Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida at Coronado Springs, Walt Disney World. Florida is truly a beautiful state and we are looking forward to sharing it with NSNA members next year.

Abbygail was raised in Davenport, FL right outside of the Walt Disney World Attractions. Her passion for nursing developed out the time she spent volunteering at Celebration Hospital, and the opportunity to interview a local nurse on her career. She graduated in 2015 from Ridge Community High School and went on to be a full-time undergraduate nursing student at the University of Central Florida with a minor in Medical Sociology. She is expecting to graduate with her B.S.N in May of 2019. Following her undergraduate studies, she strives to build her nursing experience before returning to continue her education. As a student at UCF, Abbygail is involved with multiple organizations on campus, including Honors Congress, Hearts for Homeless, and her local student nurses’ association where she holds the position of treasurer. In October of 2018, Abbygail was elected as the new president for the Florida Nursing Students Association.
Academic Year 2017-18 Nurse Education Reports Published

Mary Lou Brunnell, Executive Director

The Florida Center for Nursing’s annual reports on Florida’s nurse education programs are now available on the Center’s website. Analysis of information collected from Florida’s nurse education programs for Academic Year 2017-2018 has been completed and reports are available on the Center’s website: https://www.flcenterfonursing.org/StatewideData/FCNNurseEducationReports.aspx

The Center surveyed 356 pre-licensure nursing education programs, with a response rate of 82%. Response rates increased for all program types, compared to the previous survey cycle. Reports are separated into the following categories: LPN, Pre-Licensure RN, Post-Licensure/Graduate Programs, and Faculty Supply and Demand.

Some report highlights include:

- The total number of LPN programs decreased slightly, while BSN education had a net gain of six (6) new programs between 2017 and 2018.
- The number of seats available for new students decreased by 11% overall.
- Total student enrollment decreased 15% for LPN programs and 9% for generic BSN programs.
- Total student enrollment increased 3% for generic ADN programs and 13% for second seat programs.
- Full-time faculty vacancy rates ranged from 9-10% for pre-licensure programs.
- A total of 224 full-time and 201 part-time faculty positions were vacant.
- Non-competitive salaries and limited applicant pools were the most commonly reported barriers to faculty recruitment.
- Part-time faculty outnumber full-time faculty in all program types.
- The student to faculty ratio increased slightly for BSN programs (10 to 1) and decreased for LPN (13 to 1) and ADN (17 to 1) programs.
- A lack of qualified applicants in LPN (13 to 1) and ADN (17 to 1) programs.
- For BSN programs (10 to 1) and decreased for LPN (13 to 1) and ADN (17 to 1) programs.
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- Part-time faculty outnumber full-time faculty in all program types.
- The student to faculty ratio increased slightly for BSN programs (10 to 1) and decreased for LPN (13 to 1) and ADN (17 to 1) programs.
- A lack of qualified applicants in LPN programs and a lack of clinical sites for RN programs were the most commonly reported barriers to expanding program capacity.

Reports from our Facilities

John Berry, Director of Labor Relations & Governmental Affairs

State Unit: Negotiations are currently at “impasse.” This year, State Unit President Debbie Hogan and myself, were able to lobby 9 out of the 10 committee members regarding employee raises. The outcome is now in the hands of the legislature.

Thank you to those who participated in the contract survey. Almost half of the membership took the time to answer the questions to let the committee know their thoughts on which items should be addressed.

We recently sent out LERC Today, the newsletter of the bargaining units to give them updates as to what is going on in all of their facilities.

We’ve also handled a few grievances on behalf of the membership and just held a consultation meeting on behalf of the members with the Orange County Health Department.

UF Health/Shands Hospital: We recently completed negotiations and we’ll be bringing the proposed agreement for ratification in the next couple of weeks. The results of the members who participated in the contract survey were excellent. There were 440 nurses who took the time to answer the questions in the survey and are focused on what they would like to see in the new agreement.

Our representatives are doing an excellent job handling any workplace issues that arise. I would like to congratulate Mark Welz, Unit President, who’s done an excellent job since taking over duties as President and our Past President Marsha Martin who still remains an active force at the facility.

Rockledge Regional Medical Center: We are currently in contract negotiations with representatives of the hospital as well as a representative from Steward Health Systems who own the facility. The committee has been working hard to bring back a fair agreement to the membership.

I would like to congratulate Matt Price, unit representative, for stepping up and taking over for our recently retired Unit President Marcia Stroud. When negotiations are complete we’ll be holding unit elections for all positions of their board.

Florida State University: Our leadership at FSU will be heading back to the bargaining table shortly to negotiate changes to their agreement. Our members are completing a contract survey so that they are able to best let us know what they would like in their upcoming contract negotiations.

OPEIU International Convention at Bally’s Las Vegas, Nevada June 10th – 14th, 2019

State Unit President Deborah Hogan and Rockledge Regional Medical Center unit representative Matt Price will be attending the convention and I’m sure will be able to report back to the membership what they learned over the course of that week.

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The Intervention Project for Nurses (IPN) and the Florida Nurses Association (FNA) hosted their 33rd Annual Conference May 2-3rd, 2019 at the Saint Augustine World Golf Village Renaissance Resort. This year's conference theme, "Moving Forward in the Nursing Profession," explored the current landscape of the nursing profession and next steps planned for ongoing improvement and growth. The keynote speaker was FNA's Executive Director, Willa Fuller, RN, BSN who spoke on nurse bullying in "Leaving Your Mark: Caring Enough to Create Change."

Nicole Benson, Program Operations Administrator for the FL Board of Nursing, Licensure Unit, provided an overview of DOH updates and changes impacting all nursing professions in the state. Bari K. Platter, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FIAAN, Psychiatric/Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist, spoke about Medical Marijuana and Nursing Implications. Bridget Petrillo, MS, CRNA, member of the Peer Assistance Advisory Committee of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, shared her personal story of recovery and peer support with nurse anesthesia schools nationwide. Aila Accad, RN, MSN, an award-winning international speaker, best-selling author and certified well-being coach, closed out the conference with a nursing empowerment and stress-busting session.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this year's IPN/FNA Annual Conference!

The Florida Nurses Association is proud to promote the practice of Nursing Research and the work of all levels of nurse researchers. Our goal is to create a forum where experienced researchers can serve as role models and mentors, and potential and novice researchers can hone their skills and receive mentoring and support from their more seasoned colleagues. We are fortunate to have a wealth of doctorally prepared participants from our Research Special Interest Group and our Florida Nurses Foundation Trustees who are integral in the success of this conference.

Our keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Susan McMillan, PhD, APRN, FAAN. Dr. Susan McMillan retired from the Faculty of the University of South Florida College of Nursing in Tampa as an Emeritus Distinguished Professor in 2018. During her long career at USF, Dr. McMillan founded the Oncology Nursing Graduate program which prepares both DNP Nurse Practitioners (DNP) and Nurse Researchers (PhD) and led that program for more than two decades. She taught oncology nursing content, supervised oncology student dissertations and projects, and served on numerous committees and councils in the community. Her research focus was cancer symptom management and she earned more than $12 million in research grants to support her work. She has numerous publications in refereed journals reporting her work with cancer patients. She also is well known for her studies of family caregivers of hospice patients with cancer. She continues to serve as an evaluation consultant on grant-funded projects at other universities.

The Nursing Research Conference is an interactive conference that continues to evolve and we invite you to become a part of its growth and development. We also encourage interested novice nurses to attend this conference as an introduction to nursing research so that they can have first-hand knowledge of how research and evidence-based inquiry can make a difference to nursing practice and patient care. We look forward to seeing returning attendees as well as many new faces at the conference this year. Contact us at info@floridanurse.org if you have questions about participating or attending this conference.

Register at www.floridanurse.org/ResearchConference

Susan McMillan, PhD, APRN, FAAN

The Florida Nurses Association (FNA) hosted their 33rd Annual Conference May 2-3rd, 2019 at the Saint Augustine World Golf Village Renaissance Resort. This year's conference theme, "Moving Forward in the Nursing Profession," explored the current landscape of the nursing profession and next steps planned for ongoing improvement and growth. The keynote speaker was FNA's Executive Director, Willa Fuller, RN, BSN who spoke on nurse bullying in "Leaving Your Mark: Caring Enough to Create Change."

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Thank you to all who attended and supported this year's IPN/FNA Annual Conference!

Top 3 Recruiter Leaderboards

To see full leaderboard standings, go to www.floridanurse.org/starrecruiter

Updated as of 5/10/19

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HIV testing is now part of your routine health care as recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in its 2006 Revised Recommendations for HIV testing and as provided for in Florida Statute 381.004 (2)(a).

Separate informed consent for HIV testing is no longer required in health care settings. Patients need only to be notified that the HIV test is planned and that they have the option to decline. When patients opt out of HIV testing it must be documented in the medical record. Examples of notification for opt-out HIV testing in health care settings can include, but are not limited to: information on HIV testing in the general medical consent; a patient brochure; exam room signage; and/or verbally notify the patient that an HIV test will be performed.

Routine lab work includes HIV testing.
Most of us have heard the news reports of recent outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases, including Influenza and Measles. Sadly, with our currently available vaccines, many of these cases are preventable! As patient advocates, we as nurses must educate ourselves (www.cdc.gov) so that we can in turn inform our patients and their families about the importance of vaccines in protecting their health.

For example, while we know that, based on 2014-15 statistics, Influenza vaccine could have prevented about 966,000 medical visits and 67,000 hospitalizations, only 77.3% of health care workers were themselves immunized. This is well short of the 90% goal set by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Potential complications of Influenza include pneumonia, ear and sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions that can lead to hospitalizations and death.

Each year, researchers attempt to determine which strains of the viruses will be most common and to prepare the vaccines to protect against two Influenza A strains and up to two Influenza B strains. This vaccine is recommended for everyone six months of age and older, and contraindicated for anyone younger than six months, anyone who has experienced a life-threatening allergy to the vaccine or some people who have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome (cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/pdfs/rr6505.pdf). A person cannot get Influenza from the vaccine because the viruses in the vaccine have been inactivated and are not infectious. The side effects include muscle soreness, generalized discomfort or weakness and fever which only last one to two days, and should not be confused with the disease itself.

According to CDC, Measles is an acute viral respiratory illness characterized by fever (as high as 105 degrees F), malaise, cough, coryza and conjunctivitis, and Koplik spots, followed by maculopapular rash. The rash usually appears about 14 days after exposure (http://www.immunize.org/photos/measles-photos.asp). Patients are considered to be contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears. In a five minute video produced by the CDC, Dr. Jane Seward describes how health care providers can identify and report suspected cases of measles (https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/828508). Healthcare providers should report suspected Measles cases to their local Health Department within 24 hours.

Measles is the most contagious of all the infectious diseases – up to 9 out of 10 susceptible persons with close contact will develop measles. The virus is transmitted by airborne droplets which can remain in the air for up to two hours after the infected person leaves.
East Central Region Update

On May 18th, the East Central Region hosted a Meetup for Recent Nurse Graduates. FNA Director of Recent Graduates, Hannah McRoberts, led the group in discussions around issues relevant to young nurses including first year in nursing experience, stories, and advice. To learn more about this group go to www.meetup.com/Florida-Nurses-Meetup-for-Young-Professionals.

On June 28-29th, the EC Region will host Foundations of Therapeutic Touch taught by Dr. Jean Kijek. Therapeutic Touch is a holistic, evidence-based therapy that incorporates the intentional and compassionate use of universal energy to promote balance and well-being. It is a consciously directed process of energy exchange during which the practitioner uses the hands as a focus to facilitate the process. Dr. Kijek has presented this course for FNA several times and continues to return due to popular demand. More information at www.floridanurse.org/events.

North Central Region Update

The North Central Region warmly welcomes its new members! To stay updated on the happenings of the North Central Region as well as state-wide FNA activities, visit www.floridanurse.org, where you can check out our community calendar, update your member profile, and connect to the NC Region group page.

The North Central Region will host a New Grad Networking event on June 8th at V Pizza & SideCar in Gainesville. This will be a great opportunity for recent graduates to meet and share their experiences as a new nurse with peers who may be going through some of the same challenges that often accompany transition into a nursing career. More information can be found on the group’s Meetup page: “Florida Nurses Meetup for Young Professionals.”

FNA Membership Assembly is September 13th-14th at the Mission Inn Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills. This year we have an excellent selection of speakers from all over the state, covering a range of clinical issues to advocacy work and beyond. There will also be a bonus presentation of mandatory CEs for RNs.

This year we held the 9th Annual Florida Nurses Association South Region Symposium and Awards Ceremony on April 13, 2019 at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Fl. Our keynote speaker this year was The Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, a prosecutor innovator known for her many ground-breaking criminal justice reforms and accomplishments including: Florida’s first domestic violence unit; misdemeanor domestic violence court; Miami-Dade’s nationally recognized “Drug Court” program (the first treatment court in America), partnering in the creation of Miami-Dade’s Mental Health Court and the Veterans Court. She is a pioneer in the fight against the sex trafficking of our children via her Human Trafficking Task Force, a cooperative multi-agency law enforcement effort and is a great connector, of Miami-Dade’s residents to community services and providing crime prevention assistance via her Community Outreach Division. Our panel was introduced by Shanika Ampah, a nurse and survivor whose touching story brought the issue of human trafficking to life for the more than 200 south region nurses in attendance. She was joined by a dynamic panel that included Rachel Tourgenau, Community Relations Director Florida National University, Irna Barron, PhD, Professor, Marriage and Family Therapy Practice Coordinator, Master’s in Psychology Programs Alzian University – Miami Campus, Jennifer Amatello, MSN, APRN, NNP-BC, Co-Founder HEART – Healthcare & Education Awareness Response to Trafficking and Carmen Duran, BA, Miami – Supervisor / Victim Specialist Dade State Attorney’s Office Human Trafficking Unit.

Additionally, a number of nurse leaders were recognized with the Nursing Excellence Award. The categories, nurses selected, and winners are as follows:

Registered Nurse Practice Award: Nominees – Steffany Yzer and Fayola Delica Winner – Disley Goodwin; Winner – Tommie Norris. Last, but not least, Rhonda Goodman, and Barry University Winner – Audrey Miller; Promoting Environment for Excellence in Nursing Award: Nominees – Jennis Lee-Levy, Deana Brown Richards, Rhonda Goodman, and Barry University Winner – Audrey Miller; Environment for Excellence in Nursing Award: Nominees – Rosemarie Schwitzer, Aurora.”

For a full listing of positions and to apply online, please visit: floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly.
Literature Review

First Place – Nora Hernandez-Pupo for her “In KAHOOTS with Student Engagement: Innovative Technology in the classroom”

Special thanks to Barbara Russell for being the Masters of Ceremony and to the Voluntary Leadership Council for planning and executing another successful symposium.

Keynote: Hon. Katherine Fernandez Rundle

Master & Bachelor of Science in Nursing Students advocating at the State Capitol

Southwest Region Update

The Southwest Region warmly welcomes its new members! To stay updated on the happenings of the region as well as state-wide FNA activities, visit www.floridanurse.org where you can check out our community calendar, update your member profile, and connect to the SW Region group page.

FNA Membership Assembly is September 13th-14th at the Mission Inn Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills. This year we have an excellent selection of speakers from all over the state covering topics ranging from clinical issues to advocacy work and beyond. There will also be a bonus presentation of mandatory CEs on Thursday, Sept 12th, Howey-in-the-Hills is located in Central Florida, about 45 minutes north of Orlando. We hope to see an excellent turnout from Southwest Region members this year. More info at www.floridanurse.org/MembershipAssembly.

Northwest Region Update

Hello Northwest Region,

Spring was close as we arrived with excitement in Tallahassee for FNA Advocacy Days. FNA members were joined with graduate and undergraduate students to represent our region on many important issues that impact our nursing workforce. Now, we move into another season, reminding us that there is no time like the present for political advocacy. The nursing workforce is so important to community health. I encourage you to contact your local legislators, because our communication matters to healthcare.

West Central Region Update

The WCEN Spring Dinner Meeting was held on April 25, 2019 at NOVA Southeastern University in Tampa, FL. The Intervention Project for Nurses will present “Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace,” a two-hour continuing education course required for licensure renewal by the Florida Board of Nursing. In addition, the attendees participated in a research study being conducted by Myrtle Greene, Chief Operating Officer, Intervention Project for Nurses, entitled “Examining the Effect of Substance Use Training on Registered Nurses’ Competency and Self-Efficacy.”

WCEN plans a webinar meeting July 25, 2019 at 7:30 PM.

Contact Jan Adams, DNP, MPA, RN, WCEN Region Director for additional information or questions about our regional activities.

Southwest Region Update

On May 7, 2019 the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners issued a Proclamation honoring Nurses Week. Pictured: Nurse Leaders from Florida Nurses Association, Keiser University, South University, Palm Beach Atlantic University, with PBC Commissioner Hal Valeche for the PBC Nurses Week Proclamation. Thank you to Region Director Darlene Edic-Crawford for her efforts in coordinating this event.

Panelists: Shanika Ampah, Rachel Tourgeman, Irma Barron, Jennifer Armarteifo, Carmen Duran

IPN Consultant, Linda Smith presents at the WCEN Spring Meeting

Southeast Region Update

The Southeast Region Update was held on May 18, 2019 at the Mission Inn Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills. The keynote speaker was Hon. Katherine Fernandez Rundle. The panelists included Shanika Ampah, Rachel Tourgeman, Irma Barron, Jennifer Armarteifo, and Carmen Duran. The Southwest Region Update was held on May 22, 2019 at the West Central Florida Nursing Conference at NOVA Southeastern University in Tampa, FL. The keynote speaker was Prof. Linda Smith from the University of Central Florida. The panelists included Shanika Ampah, Rachel Tourgeman, Irma Barron, Jennifer Armarteifo, and Carmen Duran. The Southeast Region Update was held on May 23, 2019 at the Southeast Florida Nursing Conference at Palm Beach State College in West Palm Beach, FL. The keynote speaker was Prof. Linda Smith from the University of Central Florida. The panelists included Shanika Ampah, Rachel Tourgeman, Irma Barron, Jennifer Armarteifo, and Carmen Duran.
We Need Mentors!

The Florida Nurses Leadership Academy (FNLA) is a partnership program of the Florida Nurses Association (FNA) and the Florida Nurses Foundation (FNF) with the purpose of developing future nursing leaders. The goal is to provide tools, education and opportunities to new graduates to assist them in becoming active members and skillful leaders in their professional organization.

The Facilitator – We need someone with a passion for mentoring to coordinate the volunteers and make sure the experiences for mentees move forward. Are you an FNA member who is excited about supporting leadership development and succession planning? This is the role for you!

The Participants (Associates) – A maximum of two (2) registered nurses will be selected from each of the eight (8) regions of the Florida Nurses Association, for a possible total of 16 associates each year. A new class of FNLA associates will be appointed each year and will be involved in FNLA for a period of two years. In the first year, the associate will receive mentoring into potential leadership roles in the FNA. In the second year, the associate will transition to a mentor role for new associates. Membership in the FNLA is continuous for the life of FNA membership. Applications can be found at www.floridanurse.org.

The Mentors – In addition to former FNLA Associates, the Academy seeks additional mentors to join their program who are FNA Members and have some experience in leadership roles. If you are interested in serving as a FNLA mentor, please email Kaitlin Scarbary at kscarbary@floridanurse.org. Please call the office at 407-896-3261 if you have questions.

Members in the News

FNA Member inducted into the Miami Dade College Hall of Fame 2019

With more than 30 years of clinical and regulatory experience, Dr. Frances Civilette Downs chairs a multi-disciplinary team in Preventive Ethics initiatives across service lines at the Miami VA Healthcare System. She also mentors graduate nursing students for research practicums, including application of qualitative and quantitative methods for health quality improvement and preventive ethics projects.

Dr. Civilette Downs is a member of the Miami VA Geriatric Research Education Clinical Center Advisory Board and of the Ethics Consult Committee. She currently serves as Secretary of the Florida Nurses Foundation, and is a past President of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society, Beta Tau Chapter. She is a past FNA research grant recipient for her dissertation work on Seasonal Affective Disorder. Dr. Civilette Downs is an American Nurses Advocacy Institute National Fellow.

FNA Members Inducted as Fellows

March 9, 2019: Daleen Penoyer (Orlando Health, Orlando), Patty Geddie (Orlando Health, Orlando), Tina Mason (Moffitt Cancer Institute, Tampa), and Marilyn Chrisman (Moffitt Cancer Institute, Tampa) were inducted as Fellows (FCNS) of the Clinical Nurse Specialist Institute (CNSI), a part of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS). This year was the inaugural group.

FNA Member receives AOCNS Award

April 12, 2019: Patty Geddie was awarded the Advanced Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist (AOCNS) at the Oncology Nursing Society Congress in Anaheim, California.

FNA Member Appointed to Advisory Board

March 20, 2019
Teri Chenot, EdD, MS, Med, RN, CCE was appointed by the American Nurses Association Board of Directors to serve as Second Alternate to the Center for Ethics and Human Rights Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is a deliberative body of experts who focus on providing guidance to the Center concerning issues of current ethical concern to nursing practice, education, research, administration, and other matters of concern relating to the Center’s mission and goals.

Focus on New Grad

FNA will soon be hosting a Basics of Investing webinar for recent graduates that discusses the importance of financial planning at the beginning of your career. This webinar will advise on how to save and invest money to ensure security later in life. Your financial future is dependent on how you choose to spend now. Savings and investments will ensure things like your retirement, housing, and overall quality of life. Investing early on in your career in things like a 401k and an HAS are great ways to work towards a comfortable, healthy, more stress-free lifestyle.

We look forward to providing tools to help you on your path to financial wellness and success.
Nurses Make their Voices Heard in Tallahassee

Around 150 Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Nurses, basic nursing students and graduate students attended FNA Advocacy Days in Tallahassee this year. As usual, attendees heard from our lobbying firm, Gray|Robinson who set the stage for members and students to engage with their legislators at the Capitol. FNA President Janegale Boyd, who is a former legislator, served as the facilitator for the conference. Speakers on the first day were Rhee Hahenson, Jessica Love, Kim Armstrong and Todd Steibly of Gray|Robinson who covered such topics of how to communicate with legislators as well as the current climate of the Florida Legislature. They also detailed with bills they were following as well as other highlights of the current session. In order to make sure everyone gained an understanding they also covered the ‘basics’ of how a bill becomes a law. FNA was also pleased to welcome State Attorney Jack Campbell.

Nurses and Students Meet with Legislators to Advocate for the Profession

After receiving guidance on current legislative issues from the Gray|Robinson team, nurses and students from every region of the state took to the Capitol to advocate for their profession by meeting with Legislators from their district.

FNA Members Linda McKay and Suzie Farthing with Rep. Mike Hill (Dx 1)

FNA Members Robyne Rentz, Meghan Moroney, and Sharon Blue along with FNSA Members Abbygail Lapinski and Jena Pecori meet with Rep. Ray Rodrigues (Dx 76)

FNA Members Rhonda Goodman and students from Florida Atlantic University Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing meet with Senator Kevin Rader (Dx 20)

Board of Nursing Update

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

The Florida Board of Nursing meets publicly every two months to review licensure applications, disciplinary cases and discuss any legislative changes. All board meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend!

FNA meetings are held in different cities around the state to maximize the opportunity for the public to attend. You can find meeting agendas on our website at www.FloridasNursing.gov/meeting-information approximately two weeks prior to each meeting. If you are interested in attending, see our calendar below for the 2019 schedule.

Five Members of FNA Receive BLI Scholarship

2019 BLI Scholarship Recipients Five members of FNA received the Barbara Lumpkin Institute Scholarship to attend 2019 FNA Advocacy Days. Congratulations to the recipients: Teresa Toledo, Noelle Jacobsen, Ann Pasquale, Isabel Francis, and Mark Roberts.

“The learning of an idea, problem or concern can become a bill and then eventually law was an educational experience that no classroom can deliver... Advocacy Days gave us the opportunity for our voices to be heard, and to let our politicians aware of the voting power of nurses to effect change.”

–Mark Roberts

If we are to fulfill our professional obligation and ensure that all nurses can practice to the full extent of their education and licensure, we must learn how to navigate the world of politics and take effective action.”

–Isabel Francis

“Attending this year’s advocacy days in Tallahassee, Florida has been an eye-opening experience. There is so much work to be done, it would be nearly impossible for one person to create the change we need, but together through the FNA our voices are stronger.”

–Tori Toledo

Read more about each of the BLI Scholars’ experiences at www.floridanurse.org/news.

Members of the Florida Nurses Association Recognized During House Session

Representative Cyndi Stevenson, member of the Health & Human Services Committee, recognized the presence of FNA Members, nurses, and nursing students in attendance in the House Gallery during session on March 13th.

Legislators and Legislative Aides Meet Attendees at FNA Legislative Reception

The FNA Legislative Reception was held on the evening of March 13th at the DoubleTree Hotel in Downtown Tallahassee.

Attendees of the Reception were visited by several Legislators and Aides including: Rep. Jennifer Webb (Dx 69); Jeff Scala, LA to Sen. Lauren Book (Dx 22); Gianfranco Puppio, LA to Rep. Michael Grieco (Dx 11); Joey Planz, LA to Rep. Overdorf (Dx 83); Brandon Miller, LA to Rep. Cary Pigman (Dx 55); and Earl Jones Jr., Chief LA to Rep. Tracie Davis (Dx 13)

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