

A Communications Service to Nursing School Deans, Administrators, and Faculty

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Foundation of the NSNA – Making Dreams Come True

Diane J. Mancino



Diane Mancino

My family and I are very, very grateful for your kind assistance. I am the first person in my family to study for a college degree, and my nursing degree will be possible because of the hard work and the mission of the FNSNA to mentor and develop nursing students, and to lead us to a brighter future in the world of nursing. This scholarship has enabled me to keep my dream of becoming a registered nurse alive. Thank you!

– 2005 FNSNA Scholarship Recipient

Helping to make “dreams come true” reflects the mission and purpose of the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association (FNSNA). Established in 1969 to honor Frances Tompkins, the first Executive Director of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA), the Foundation has supported the nursing education of thousands of nursing students. FNSNA promotes the nursing profession through scholarship, leadership, and professional development. It upholds core values such as ethics and integrity, stewardship and accountability, and excellence and trust, which are essential to success in the nursing profession. The FNSNA develops and implements resources to promote the recruitment, retention, education, and leadership development of nursing students.

The vision of the FNSNA Trustees is to ensure that there is a sufficient number of high-quality, diverse nurses to meet the health care needs of the public; that quality of life will be improved for patients and caregivers; and that there will be improved education, employment, and nursing practice. Through various academic, corporate, non-profit, and community affiliations, the FNSNA assists in the development of nursing leaders.

With the scholarship program now well established, the FNSNA is adding new programs. The purpose of this article is to inform nursing education leaders about the FNSNA's activities and funds available for students as well as for schools of nursing.

Scholarship Programs

There are three programs administered by the FNSNA: general scholarships; *Promise of Nursing* regional undergrad-

uate scholarships; and *Promise of Nursing* regional graduate scholarships. Scholarships assist students in their academic endeavors and support the nursing profession by helping deserving and outstanding students attain their nursing education goals. During the 2005-2006 academic year, the FNSNA general scholarship program awarded over \$100,000; an additional \$387,500 *Promise of Nursing* regional undergraduate scholarship awards and \$242,700 *Promise of Nursing* regional graduate scholarships were made. Undergraduate scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000; graduate student scholarships were awarded in amounts up to \$15,000. Graduate student scholarship recipients were selected by the National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education.

Undergraduate scholarship applications are now available and were sent to the dean/director of all nursing programs in the U.S. The mailing included a scholarship application and information about availability of the application on www.nсна.org or by mail. Throughout the year, scholarship information is announced in *Imprint*, *NSNA News*, *Dean's Notes*, and in broadcast e-mails to nursing students and faculty.

Each year, FNSNA receives 1,500 to 2,000 scholarship applications from undergraduate nursing students. The undergraduate scholarship deadline for the 2006-2007 funding cycle is January 13, 2006. The FNSNA Trustees appoint a Scholarship Selection Committee, composed of nursing faculty and nursing students, to review the applications and select the recipients. All scholarship applications are peer-reviewed and rated prior to evaluation by the Selection Committee. Ratings are established on point-based criteria that include academic performance, financial need, and community involvement.

The Scholarship Selection Committee evaluates each applicant's rankings and reviews criteria established for each scholarship before making award designations. Once selected, winners are notified and invited to participate in the Annual Awards Ceremony that takes place during the National Student Nurses' Association Annual Convention. Award checks are sent to the recipient's school for deposit in the student's tuition account; funds may be used for tuition, academic fees, and books.

The FNSNA administers funds raised at *Promise of Nursing* gala events sponsored by Johnson & Johnson in several locations. *Promise of Nursing* galas have taken place in 14 cities, and five events are planned for 2006. Raising over seven million dollars, the funds support regional undergraduate scholarships, graduate scholarships to prepare nurse faculty, and grants to nursing programs to help increase the number of graduates.

Endowments

The FNSNA has three endowment funds that ensure future scholarships. These include:

- The *Mary Ann Tuft Scholarship Fund* endowment, established in 1982, honors Mary Ann Tuft, the second Executive Director of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). It was under Ms. Tuft's leadership that the Foundation of the NSNA was created. Each year, the Fund awards five undergraduate scholarships.
- The 3M Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, established an endowed nursing scholarship fund with a contribution of \$100,000. The *3M™ Littmann® Stethoscope Scholarship Endowment* creates a legacy that will enrich the lives of future generations of nursing students.
- A \$500,000 grant from The Helene Fuld Health Trust, HSBC Bank USA Trustee, for a permanent endowment fund to provide financial aid for students enrolled in baccalaureate nursing programs. The Fund, named the *Helene Fuld Health Trust Scholarship Fund for Baccalaureate Nursing Students*, is the largest grant ever awarded to the FNSNA. The Helene Fuld Health Trust is the nation's largest private Trust devoted exclusively to nursing students and nursing education.

Support for Leadership Development

Two funds have been created to support leadership development of undergraduate nursing students. These include:

- *The Leadership Legacy Fund* was established in January 2002 by the inaugural class of the RWJ Executive Nurse Fellows Program. Members of the 1998 cohort resolved to establish a connection with emerging nurse leaders as a legacy to the RWJ Executive Nurse Fellows Program experience. The Fund supports an annual Terrance Keenan Nursing Leadership Lecture at the NSNA Convention.
- *The Marilyn Bagwell Leadership Development Fund* established by Marilyn Bagwell, PhD, RN, professor emeritus, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, supports student involvement in NSNA. Nursing programs may apply for a grant to strengthen an existing NSNA chapter or to establish a new chapter. Dr. Bagwell firmly believes that the future of nursing depends on preparing today's nursing students to address the challenges of the nursing profession tomorrow. It is Dr. Bagwell's expectation that nursing students who are active in student organizations will continue to serve in vital leadership roles within their professional organization.

Raising Funds to Support FNSNA

FNSNA fundraising activities include support from foundations, fundraising events, annual contributions, and relationships with businesses that have an interest in nursing education. Several new fundraising activities have provided additional opportunities for increasing the source and scope of support for the FNSNA. Below are a few examples:

- Students and faculty can support the *Marilyn Bagwell Leadership Development Fund* by purchasing books and other items on the NSNA Online Bookstore sponsored by Barnes & Noble. In addition to receiving a 5% discount, a portion of purchases made on www.bn.com/NSNA supports leadership development. Special bulk discounts and services are available on orders of 50 or more copies of a single title. Special promotions offer a 10% discount bi-annually.

- An auction to support the *Mary Ann Tuft Scholarship Fund* takes place at the NSNA Annual Convention. Several companies, faculty, and students contribute items and participate in a live auction.
- The House of Delegates Challenge also takes place at the Annual Convention. The generosity of school and state chapters has grown over the past few years, and over \$9,000 was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, last April.
- The Fund-raising event planned for the upcoming MidYear Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, offers an evening of fun and surprises. FNSNA fundraisers are an exciting highlight of attending the MidYear Conference.
- FNSNA welcomes annual contributions as well as contributions to specific funds. Planned giving is also sincerely appreciated.

The Foundation of the NSNA works to help nursing students achieve their goal by supporting nursing education.* Scholarship sponsors receive recognition along with the sincere appreciation of the students whose education is supported by their contributions. With the support of nursing leaders, as well as students and the general public, we will continue to increase resources available to augment funds for nursing education. Your support as well as your ideas are valued; please contact Jasmine Melendez, Scholarship and Grants Administrator by (e-mail jasmine@nsna.org) or by phone (718-210-0705, ext. 118) if you have any questions or require assistance with scholarships or grant applications. FNSNA welcomes your involvement in making dreams come true for future generations of nursing students.

* Organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, FNSNA is a Section 501 (c) (3) Public Charity under the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible.

Diane J. Mancino, EdD, RN, CAE, is executive director of the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association and the National Student Nurses' Association, located at 45 Main Street, Suite 606, Brooklyn, New York, 11201. Please send your comments and questions to diane@nsna.org.

Graduate Nursing Education Funding Available

Promise of Nursing Regional Faculty Fellowships are available for 2006-2007 for masters and doctoral students preparing for the nurse educator role. Application deadline is February 10, 2006. A list of eligible regions and the application are available on www.nsna.org (click on Foundation), or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope with \$0.83 postage to:

**Promise of Nursing Regional Faculty Fellowships
Foundation of the NSNA
45 Main Street, Suite 606
Brooklyn, New York 11201**

Funding for the Promise of Nursing Regional Faculty Fellowship Program is contributed by several hospitals and health-care agencies, by Johnson & Johnson, and by national companies with an interest in supporting nursing education. The funds are raised at gala fundraising events sponsored by Johnson & Johnson. Awards may be used for tuition, academic fees, and books. The Promise of Nursing Faculty Fellowship Program is administered by The Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.

NSNA Releases “Mentoring: The Experience of a Lifetime” Video

Mentoring is a simple yet powerful relationship that is often deep and long lasting. The aim of mentoring is to empower and nurture others by investing the wisdom, skills, and time needed to expand the protégé’s knowledge and help him/her grow personally and professionally. *Mentoring: The Experience of a Lifetime*, is a 25-minute video for nursing students, nurses, and faculty that explores the world of mentorship and the dynamic relationship between mentor and protégé.

Produced by Envision, Inc., Nashville, TN, the video will help nurse educators prepare students for their role in nursing practice, teach hospital staff nurses and nurse managers how to optimize these roles in the workplace, engage nurses in professional organizations to mentor and nurture future association leaders, and inform nurses and nursing students on how to model the role of mentor and protégé.

Diane J. Mancino, EdD, RN, CAE, NSNA executive director, is executive producer of this motivating video. She has also produced other award-winning videos, such as *Not for Ourselves, But for Others*, based on her doctoral research on NSNA’s history; *To Advance We Must Unite*, an important documentary highlighting 100 years of the American Nurses Association; and *Nursing: The Ultimate Adventure*, which highlights nursing careers.

The video features interviews with nursing students, past NSNA leaders, and distinguished nursing faculty. Connie Vance, EdD, RN, FAAN, professor of nursing, College of New Rochelle, New York acted as expert consultant on the video. Primary video sponsors include Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, NJ; Kaiser Permanente; American Nurses Association, Silver Spring, MD; Catholic Healthcare West; Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY; and Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY. Additional sponsor includes American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Washington, DC;

The video is available in either DVD or VHS format, and includes a comprehensive resource guide. To order and check pricing, contact NSNA at 718-210-0705, ext. 100.

Honorary Membership, NSNA’s Highest Honor, Conferred Upon Joseph Duffy, FNSNA President

Joseph Duffy received NSNA’s highest honor, Honorary Membership, at NSNA’s gala Awards Ceremony in Salt Lake City, on April 9, 2005, during the Annual Convention. Mr. Duffy was formerly president of Chase Manhattan Trust Company of California, and chief investment officer for Bank of America. He was most recently director for the U.S. Trust Company. He joined the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the National Student Nurses Association (FNSNA) in 1993, and became president of FNSNA in 2001.

Throughout his tenure on the Board of Trustees, Mr. Duffy has contributed his time and talent to advance the mission of FNSNA. His commitment to nursing students and to FNSNA is evident in his leadership in establishing a Capital Campaign, which created an endowment fund for nursing scholarships. Thanks to his efforts, the success of the

Campaign grows every day, ensuring future funding for nursing education. Mr. Duffy has also assisted FNSNA in developing a close working relationship with Johnson & Johnson and its “Campaign for Nursing’s Future.”

Students know Mr. Duffy as the host of fundraising events at the MidYear Conference. As the Master of Ceremonies for the “Critical Thinking Challenge” for many years, students laughed so hard they cried as he tried to pronounce medical terms that were as foreign to him as financial terms are to nursing students. He hosted the first “Nursing Student Idol” and NSNA Talent Show at the 2004 MidYear Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida, where he challenged students to make a donation to hear him sing “New York, New York.” When the price was right, he kept his promise and surprised everyone with his great singing voice.

Mr. Duffy is constantly reminding students that charity begins at home, and he encourages school and state chapters to hold local fundraising events to support the FNSNA scholarship program. Perhaps Mr. Duffy’s love for nursing students and nursing education stems from his having grown up with nurses. His mother was a nurse and his sister is a nurse researcher at Boston College. Whatever the reason, he is a perfect example of someone who appreciates what nurses do, and he understands what nursing students have the potential to become through education. He is a special individual who believes in students, and in the FNSNA and NSNA. About receiving the honor, Mr. Duffy stated, “I appreciate the honor, and accept with pleasure and humility.”

Other past NSNA Honorary Members include many who have gone on to become leaders in their fields: Thelma Schorr, 1980; Mary Ann Tuft, 1980; Cleo Doster, 1982; Florence Huey, 1988; Cheryl Schmidt, 1989; Erlene McGriff, 1999; and Robert V. Piemonte, past NSNA executive director.

Dr. Gloria F. Donnelly to Keynote NSNA’s 23rd Annual MidYear Conference

Gloria Ferraro Donnelly, PhD, RN, FAAN, will keynote the 23rd Annual NSNA MidYear Conference on Thursday, November 10, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. at the Galt House Hotel, Louisville, KY. Her motivational speech, “Countdown to Career Launch: Blast Off, Orbits, Trajectories!” will highlight current and future trends in nursing. Her speech is sponsored through an educational grant from Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., Pitman, NJ.

The MidYear Conference, known as NSNA’s “Career Planning Conference,” takes place November 10-13, 2005, with 1,000 nursing students and hundreds of exhibitors expected to attend. It offers nursing students a unique opportunity to hear nationally know speakers discuss trends and issues relevant to nursing today, and offers a broad selection of activities, including workshops, panels, exhibits, and an NCLEX® Review to help prepare them for careers as professional nurses.

Dr. Donnelly is a leader in nursing education, both regionally and nationally. She is Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions at Drexel University (formerly MCP Hahnemann University). Before coming to Drexel, she served as founding Dean of the School of Nursing, La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA.

For more information about the MidYear Conference, including online registration check NSNA’s web site, www.nsna.org, this summer.

*Once you have finished with this newsletter,
please pass it along to share with a colleague or friend.*

DEAN'S Notes™

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Nurses for America Grant Awarded to Georgetown University

In light of what we have seen regarding the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the hundreds of thousands of needy individuals throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, it seems timely that Georgetown University's School of Nursing and Health Studies (GU-NHS) has been funded by AmeriCorps to create a corps of professional registered nurses to address the health care needs of vulnerable and underserved populations. The project's focus is to train and deploy professional registered nurses who will support the "safety net" clinics of this country that care for the disproportionate number of people in the United States suffering and dying due to lack of access to health care. The execution of this goal requires an action-oriented commitment. GU-NHS has already partnered with the Area Health and Education Committees (AHECs) of the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia; the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC); and the Nursing Directors of the public health departments of Alameda County, California, and East St. Louis, Illinois. We are now asking for your help.

The Nurses for America grant originated from both personal contemplation and a scholastic challenge put forth to senior undergraduate nursing students at GU-NHS by Professor Barbara Aranda-Naranjo PhD, RN. First, she asked her students to consider the moral value in working constructively to assist medically underserved communities suffering from an increasing disparity in access to health care in the United States. She then inquired what incentives would be necessary for them to choose to work directly with the poor in

local community health centers (CHCs), faith-based clinics, and neighborhood clinics rather than in a traditional hospital setting.

The ensuing discussion led students to work as a group to develop the specific criteria – ongoing training and intensive mentorship – that would encourage nurses to choose to serve the disadvantaged seeking health care at local CHCs. Furthermore, the students decided upon three project goals: (1) access to nursing care for the underserved, vulnerable populations will be increased; (2) the delivery of quality health care to vulnerable populations will be improved; and (3) the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of nurse members regarding citizenship will be increased.

As a first step in our commitment, GU-NHS will place 20 baccalaureate-prepared professional registered nurses to provide two years of service at CHCs located in medically underserved areas and /or with professional nursing shortages. The initial sites identified are in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, East St. Louis, Missouri, and Alameda County, California. The nurse applicants will come to GU-NHS for an immersion training program in the summer of 2006 and then receive continuous mentoring during their two-year commitment at one of the clinics. The nurses will receive a salary from the CHCs, and at the completion of each year of service, the nurse members will receive an educational award of \$4,725 to pay for graduate school or repay qualified student loans.

We ask that you share this wonderful opportunity with your professional nursing students who want to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate with little access to health care. For more information, please contact Barbara Aranda-Naranjo, PhD, RN, and Kathleen and Robert Scanlon, Endowed Chair, at ba78@georgetown.edu or 202-687-1331.