



### In This Issue

- President's Pen
- Treasurer's Report
- Annual Conference Report
- Pay it Forward
- SNRS State Liaison Program
- Upcoming Grants/Funding
- Doctoral Student Corner

### Communications Committee

Anne Stiles, Chair

### Southern Connections Subcommittee

Lenora Smith, Editor

### Website Subcommittee

Janice Anderson

Johnanna Hernandez

Cherri' L. Shireman,  
Student Representative

### SOJNR

Melissa Batchelor  
Aselage, Student Representative

Elaine Marshall, Interim

### President's Pen



The Board of SNRS is moving forward on many fronts to address the needs of the Society. Witness the unveiling of our new logo visible on the home page of the SNRS web site. Thanks to all the members who took the time to vote in this process. We will be updating the web site with the new logo as well as other organizational materials. The new logo was developed in response to the request of members at our 2010 conference and

hopefully positions the organization for our next 25 years. I would like to thank Dr. Anne Stiles as Director of the Communications Committee and her committee for their efforts in the development of the logo and their continuing efforts with the web site.

The Program Planning Committee and Dr. Anne Turner-Henson are in the midst of abstract review and planning for our annual meeting next February 22-25 in New Orleans at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. This meeting promises to be as exciting, informative, and as fun as our 25th. We look forward to the many presentations and interactions with participants from around the southern region and beyond.

With the surplus realized from our 25th annual meeting and with the increase in dues approved at our last meeting, the organization is in a much stronger financial position. Recently, the Board voted to reimburse the reserve fund accounts for 50% of what was "borrowed" in 2009 to meet operating expenses (\$20,000). The plan is to reimburse the remainder at the end of this fiscal year and to move forward with other initiatives such as funding the research grants for larger amounts, developing new grants, and/or making the process of reviewing grants totally an online experience.

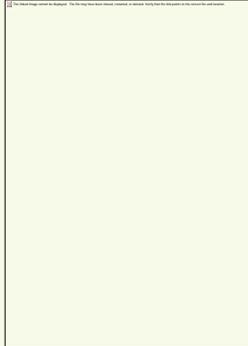
The Board is also in the process of reviewing and revising our Strategic Plan. This will be one of the foci of our mid-year

Editor

meeting that will be held in September. We look forward to this opportunity to dialogue and strategize about the organization and our future directions. So stay tuned.

Marti Rice, PhD, RN  
President

### Treasurer's Report



As of July 2011, SNRS total assets are \$352,045. This is an increase from the prior year total of \$252,151, primarily due to attendee registration and the increase in registration fees for the 2011 Annual Conference. The net income year-to-date (YTD) is \$118,666 as compared to \$51,431 last year at this time. Again, attributable to the Annual Conference. An income of \$4,829 was received in April for dues, bringing the YTD total to \$71,238. This is 64 percent of the budgeted amount of \$111,130. Surplus from the Annual Conference YTD is \$110,557, well above proposed surplus of \$54,540. The total direct expenses YTD are currently \$216,142, plus general expenses of \$64,991, bringing total expenses YTD to \$281,132. This reflects 80 percent of the proposed total expenses of \$353,565. The major expenses for this year's annual conference have been paid.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Demetrius J. Porche, DSN, RN

### Annual Conference Save the Date! - Anne Turner-Henson, DSN, RN, FAAN

**26th SNRS Annual Conference  
February 22-25, 2012  
Hilton New Orleans Riverside  
New Orleans, LA**

The online submission process for student posters and late breaker abstracts opened September 15 and will close October 3, 2011 5 PM. Check out: [SNRS Annual Conference Website](#) for submission guidelines, tutorials and exemplar abstracts. New this year are tutorial videos to guide you through the submission process!

Student poster abstracts may be submitted by students currently enrolled in programs, as well as members who completed the work while a student (in the previous year). These abstracts must describe completed research (may be preliminary findings) or methodology abstracts (innovative methodologies). The student must be the first author (presenter) of the abstract, though additional authors may be faculty advisors or others.

Students who are submitting abstracts are strongly encouraged to read the submission guidelines, view the exemplar abstracts, and listen to the videos on how to prepare and submit an abstract. Please note that the student must attest (see special statement that must be signed by the faculty advisor or designee) that the faculty advisor or designee has read and approved the abstract submission.

The Southern Nursing Research Society Annual Conference provides an opportunity for SNRS members to report ongoing and completed research as well as theoretical,

conceptual, and methodological projects to colleagues. Poster presentation abstracts may include work in progress and/or preliminary data analysis, though data collection and analysis must be complete at the time of the conference presentation.

Please note:

\*Please read all directions carefully.

\*SNRS membership is NOT required at the time of abstract submission. However, SNRS membership is REQUIRED at the time of presentation.

\*We encourage you to enter all of your information exactly as you wish it to appear in the program.

We look forward to receiving your 2012 abstract and seeing you in New Orleans, LA.

Anne Turner-Henson, DSN, RN, FAAN  
Vice President

### **Paying It Forward: The Gift of Giving Back - Nan Smith-Blair, PhD, RN**

I have to say, that I am probably more reluctant than most to ask people for donations. Like most of you, the majority my giving tends to be unconscious as I toss loose change into "red pots" at Christmas or into a jar at the convenience store for someone who has experienced a tragedy. When I was approached by leaders in the Southern Nursing Research Society to head the Development Program, I wondered if they had lost their minds. I had to do some hard thinking and reflection on this decision. Looking back however, I remembered that I was a recipient of a research grant from SNRS. In fact, it helped me launch my research agenda by providing money to help establish my physiologic laboratory. Would I have been able to be successful without the money from that grant? Probably. But it was more than the money. It was the knowledge that other respected researchers valued my work and had enough confidence to invest in me as a researcher. I remembered the expression "pay it forward," coined by author Catherine Ryan Hyde, describing the concept of asking that a good turn be repaid by passing a good turn on to others.

All of us give our time and talents every day in our work world. What a wonderful profession we practice in where we can make a difference in someone's lives every day through our teaching, clinical practice or research. SNRS also makes a difference in someone's life through support of researchers who will impact the science of nursing. Margaret Mead wrote, "Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

We all have seen the impact of elementary students proving that a little change can go a long way by contributing pennies with collections exceeding \$1,000,000.00 donated to charities. The board of directors for SNRS has approved a variety of funding plans that allows members to donate at a level that is comfortable to each individual. Please consider "paying it forward" to insure grants for our future nursing researchers.

### **[SUPPORT SNRS FUND](#)**

Become a partner today in shaping the future of nursing research through your contribution to SNRS. A financial gift provides benefits for both you as a donor and SNRS by helping to maintain financial security for those seeking to increase the science

of nursing through research. There are a variety of ways that you can contribute financially to SNRS:

- **Circle of Research Scholars-** providing funding from dedicated SNRS members and leaders to continue to vision of promoting the development of future nurse researchers through pledging \$1000.00 for two years. All donations are restricted to providing additional funding to grants awarded members.
  
- **Building a Foundation of Nursing Researchers-** a program designed to develop a base funding strategy for research grants by contributing annually to help support nursing research grants. It incorporates various levels of funding to match members ability. All donations are restricted to providing additional funding to grants awarded members.
  - *Bronze donation* \$50.00-\$199.00
  - *Silver donation* \$200.00-\$499.00
  - *Gold donation* \$500-\$999.00
  
- **Visionary Research Donation-** a program designed to recognize significant financial contributions to SNRS by members, institutional members and businesses making a significant donation over a three year period.
  - *Fellowship Circle* \$1,000.00-\$2,999.00 (Includes Circle of Research Scholars member if they commit to a three-year donation cycle)
  - *Executive Circle* \$3,000.00-\$4,999.00
  - *President's Circle* \$5,000.00-\$10,000.00

### SNRS State Liaison Program - Deborah J. Jones, PhD, RN

The goals of the SNRS State Liaison program are to encourage membership, improve communication between the Board and the membership, increase involvement of the membership in SNRS activities and provide grass-root input from the membership to the Board. Each state has a State Liaison appointed by the Board who manages membership of that state. Contact information for your State Liaison can be found on the [SNRS website](#).

Deborah J. Jones PhD, MS, RN  
Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center Houston

- **Karen L. Rice, DNS, APRN, ACNS-BC, ANP**

Dr. Karen Rice is an adult nurse practitioner and clinical nurses specialist. She has been the program director for the Center for Nursing Research at Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans since 2006. Karen is responsible for facilitating EBP and nursing research for this Magnet facility. Her program of research is improving nurses' recognition of delirium in the hospitalized older adult. Karen also is adjunct faculty at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing and teaches research in the graduate program.

- **M. Danet Lapiz-Bluhm, PhD, RN**

M. Danet Lapiz-Bluhm, PhD, RN, is currently an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing (SON), University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA). She has been a principal investigator (PI), co-PI or co-investigator for grants and funding from the National Institute for Mental Health, the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD), TriService Nursing Research Program, Clinical and Translational Science Award from the Institute for the Integration of Medicine and Science (IIMS), Nursing Advisory Council, the Dean's Award for the Scholarship of Teaching, among others. More recently, she received the Hogg Foundation Grant for Mental Health and the Mentored Research Career Development (KL2) award in Clinical and Translational Science from the IIMS.

- **Tammy King-Jones, PhD, RNC-OB**

Tammy King-Jones, PhD is currently in the role of Associate Chief Nursing Officer at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Medical Center. Provide leadership for the Center for Nursing Excellence which encompasses advanced practice nurses, nursing research, quality improvement, evidence-based practice, shared governance and recruitment/retention. Previous research in Adolescent Sexual Risk-taking; presently focusing on phenomena impacting the clinical workforce and nursing practice.

- **Dr. Barbara A. Smith, FAAN, FACSM, RN, PhD**

Dr. Barbara A. Smith, FAAN, FACSM, RN, PhD, is a Professor and the Associate Dean for Research at the University of Maryland, School of Nursing. As a nurse and an exercise physiologist, Dr. Smith has made a significant contribution to the literature related to the exercise interventions, safety and efficacy of exercise, and the use of exercise to reduce weight and modify CVD risk factors in community dwelling chronically ill adults and children. Dr. Smith was one of the first investigators to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of exercise in HIV-infected patients. She also is active globally and serves as principal investigator of a study entitled *Assessing Nurses Risk of Exposure to Blood Borne Pathogens in Sub-Saharan Africa*.

- **Janice A. Neil, RN, PhD- East Carolina University**

After a long history of staff nursing, teaching, research and service, Dr. Neil has now been a department chair since 2006 at her institution. She was tenured in 2004 and has numerous publications and presentations. Her areas of research include foot care and shoe management in persons with diabetes mellitus, and simulation research including the addition of smell to wound care scenarios. She is also interested in education research including fostering diversity in baccalaureate degree programs.

- **Alice R. (DeeDee) Boyington, RN, PhD/Nursing Research Director**

Dr. Boyington has a MSN and PhD from the University of Florida and is the Nursing Research Director at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Tampa, Florida. Having been an Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she brings the service and academic perspective to her role as Florida's SNRS State Liaison. She is an active participant on the Nursing Research Committee of the Florida Organization of Nurse Executives and the College of Nursing Alumni Council Board at the University of Florida.

### Upcoming Grants/Funding

#### **AONE Foundation - 2012 Seed Grant proposals**

Awards are for between \$3,000 and \$8,000 and deadline for submission is November 1, 2011. Members and non-members may apply. Research projects must be related to nursing administration practice in the areas of workforce, work environment, leadership development, patient safety and evidence-based management practices. Awardees will be notified by January 6, 2012.

### Doctoral Student Corner - Joy Bailey, RN, MSN, CRRN, BC

#### **Engaging Bedside Nurses in Exploring Evidence-Based Practice A Major Challenge?**

**by Joy Bailey, RN, MSN, CRRN, BC**

For several years now nursing leaders have been promoting bedside interventions that are grounded in evidence-based practice. Nurses are consistently charged with delivering care to a population that is sicker, frailer, present with more co-morbidities and require increasingly complex interventions for satisfactory outcomes. An Institute of Medicine report (2001) highlighted the fact that, even as our healthcare systems evolve exponentially, we have "fallen far short in (the) ability to translate knowledge into practice and to apply new technology safely and appropriately." In hospitals, we often write policies and procedures based on clinical research evidence (or clinical practice guidelines), and our nurses follow those policies, rarely questioning what they are charged to do. Those of us who have already accomplished or are engaged in doctoral studies know how indispensable research translation is to safe and competent nursing practice. So how do we engage the bedside nurse in research when they may not consider it a priority? How do we involve nurses in utilizing EBP when it may be a challenge to even have them take the first step of selecting and reading a research paper?

There are a multitude of articles that testify to the challenge of engaging clinical nurses in research. Some readers may be aware of a research tool, the BARRIERS scale (Funk, Champagne & Tornquist, 1991), that was designed to identify nurses' perceptions and barriers to using research. The subscales of this instrument measure four factors, *characteristics of the adopter* (the nurse's research values, skills and awareness), *characteristics of the organization* (barriers and limitations of the setting), *characteristics of the innovation* (qualities of the research) and *characteristics of the communication* (presentation and accessibility of the research). Kocaman et al (2010) conducted a study of 329 Turkish nurses using this scale. They published the results of their study and also compared their findings with those of studies done in Ireland, Finland, Australia, Sweden, the UK and the USA. They concluded that the prime barriers to research utilization in the Turkish study were similar those in other countries. These

were lack of time to implement new ideas, lack of support from other staff with implementation, lack of cooperation from physicians with implementation, and nurses being isolated from knowledgeable colleagues with whom to discuss research.

An Australian study by Sherriff, Wallis and Chaboyer (2007) evaluated the effects of an EBP education program on nurses' attitudes to EBP and their perception of their knowledge and skills towards EBP. The study respondents were 59 senior nurses in clinical and leadership roles. The researchers found that nurses appreciated the value of EBP for practice and that perception of their own knowledge and skills and organizational support improved after the education program. Carlson and Plonczynski (2008) conducted a review of studies that used the BARRIERS scale. Interestingly, they concluded that there was no evidence that identifying barriers to nurses' use of research influenced nursing practice and there might be utility in investigating whether there is a relationship between nurses' perception of barriers to research and their use of EBP. In a cross-sectional study of 1301 nurses, Brown et al (2010) also found that perceived barriers to research had little influence on whether hospital nurses utilized EBP. It would appear therefore, that eliminating perceived barriers to research would not necessarily increase hospital nurses' inclination to EBP.

So how might nurse leaders act to engage nurses in evaluating research and utilizing their findings to enhance their practice? Watch for these and more in the next edition of *Southern Connections*.

#### References

Carlson, C.L., & Plonczynski. (2008). Has the BARRIERS Scale changed nursing practice? An integrative review. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 63(4),322-333. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2648.2008.04705.x.

Funk, S.G., Champagne, R.A., & Tornquist, E.M. (1991). BARRIERS: the Barriers to research utilization scale. *Applied Nursing Research* 4, 39-45.

Kocaman, G., Seren, S., Lash, A.A., Kurt, S., Bengu, N., & Yurumezoglu, H.A. (2010). Barriers to research utilization by staff nurses in a university hospital. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 19, 1908-1918. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2702.2009.03032.x.

Sherriff, K.I., Wallis, M., & Chaboyer, W. (2007). Nurses' attitudes to and perceptions of knowledge and skills regarding evidence-based practice. *International Journal of Nursing Practice*, 13, 363-369. doi:10.1111/j.1440.172X.2007.00651.x.

Joy Bailey is a doctoral student at Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA. Her area of interest is nurse manager support in the hospital environment.

