

# Southern Connections *online*

A publication of the Southern Nursing Research Society  
Summer, 2004



**OFFICER NOMINATIONS • Peer Nominations  
AWARDS • September 15, 2004 • JUST DO IT!  
9/15/04 • NOMINATE FOR NEW OFFICERS  
Recognize your peers • SEND IT IN • Sept 15, 2004**

This is our first issue of **Southern Connections *online***. For the coming year, this will be our only online issue. The Governing Board is very interested in your feedback about this online issue, as we begin to consider moving to an all-online format. What advantages and disadvantages do you see? Please send your feedback to any of the Board members, or to the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Patty Gray ([dpgray@vcu.edu](mailto:dpgray@vcu.edu)). Inside this issue: President's Message (p.2), Officer Nominations (p.3), What's going on? (p.4), Recognizing excellence (p. 5), 2004 SNRS Hartford Award winner (6), Officer directory (p. 7), Nominations form (p. 8).



## "The Call" we try to avoid

**I**t was nearly two years ago that I got the call we all try to avoid. You know the call, it generally starts out, "I know you're a very busy person, BUT we really need you to run for an office." They were right, I was busy and could come up with a thousand excuses why I couldn't take on one more obligation. Still, I knew my obligations were no greater than most of my colleagues and, as they explained,

"Our organization needs leaders with the kind of experience that comes with being a busy person."

I don't know whether it was a failure to learn how to say "no", a common nursing tendency to want to help, a sign of aging and notion that it is time to give back for the benefits derived from our profession, or the belief that it would be great to get to know some new people and some old people better. Regardless of the reason, I succumbed and agreed to run for president-elect of SNRS.

Two years later, and I can say that perhaps the sermons about starting "stop doing lists" and saying "no" can be taken to an extreme and cause us to miss out on some wonderful opportunities and experiences. Wanting to help and give back to a profession that has given us so much aren't necessarily such bad traits. And yes, it has been personally and professionally rewarding to get to know some new people and some old people better.

So now I find myself making that call we all try to avoid and delivering the same message about needing busy people in leadership positions. If you think about the kind the leadership an organization like SNRS needs, it does require someone who is a busy person. Someone with the experience it takes to understand the issues we face and lead a large and diverse organization.

Are you busy enough to take on a leadership role in SNRS? Can you get past those tired and tiring messages we all hear in our heads about being too busy? If so, don't avoid or even wait for the call, make it yourself and volunteer to be placed on the ballot. You'll be joined on the board by other busy folks that have learned they get as much as they give through organizational leadership; and who like you decided to answer instead of avoid the call.

Donna Hathaway, Ph.D., R.N.

# Officer nominations



## **ELECTION 2004: POSITIONS TO BE FILLED**

### **President-Elect (2005-2006)**

- Perform duties as delegated.

### **Vice President (2005-2007)**

- Serve as Program Committee Chair.
- Serve as Vice-President of the Governing Board and Executive Council.
- Conduct meetings in the absence of the President.
- Perform other duties as delegated.

### **Treasurer (2005-2007)**

- Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Governing Board in consultation with the Finance Committee.
- Monitor the collection and dispersion of all funds of the Society in accordance with the established policies of order of the Governing Board.
- Provide financial reports to the Governing Board and membership of the Society.
- Maintain financial records of the Society for review, audit, or other needs as required by the Governing Board and/or the Society.

### **Governing Board Member-at-Large (2005-2007); two positions**

- Provide administrative leadership for activities of the Society such as setting goals and priorities, coordinating activities and future directions, and establishing major administrative policies governing the affairs of SNRS.

### **Nominating Committee Members (2005-2007); two positions**

- Participate in the preparation of a slate of consenting eligible candidates for annual and special elections
- Assume responsibility for coordinating the mailing of the official ballot to members.

### **Mail the completed nominations packet to:**

SNRS National Office  
The University of Alabama College of Continuing Studies  
Attn: Amanda Al-Betar  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0388

**For US Mail only**, include: BOX 870388

**For UPS/Fed Ex**, include street address ONLY (no Box #):  
201 Martha Parham West  
Paul Bryant Drive & 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Nominations are being solicited for leadership positions in the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS).

The regional research organizations (SNRS and others) have moved to the forefront of research leadership in the nation in partnership with NINR, the National Research Roundtable, and other nursing organizations. Becoming a member of SNRS's elected leadership group puts individuals in the thick of nursing research activity in our country.

If you are considering running for a position, The Nominations Committee strongly encourages you to contact the person who currently holds that position to gain a better understanding of the responsibilities. Positions to which members will be elected for the 2004-2006 term are found to the left.

**Self-nominations** are welcome and encouraged. Eligible nominees must be members of SNRS and must agree to have their names placed on the ballot. Newly elected officers begin their terms of office at the close of the 19th Annual SNRS Conference in Atlanta, Georgia in February 2005.

Nominations must be in writing (**email and faxes will not be accepted**) and include:

- A completed "Nomination and Consent Form" with the nominee's original signature
- An attached page with a brief "Candidate's Statement" prepared by the nominee regarding actual or potential contributions to SNRS. This statement will be included with the official ballot that is mailed to the SNRS membership.

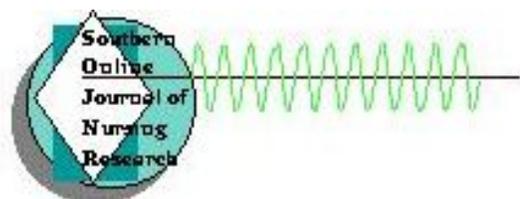
## Recruit a new member: SNRS Membership Drive

SNRS is growing its membership! SNRS encourages all of us to recruit at least one new member. Recognition will be given to the member recruiting the most new members and the institution with the most new members by January 1, 2005.

A "New Member" is someone who has never been a member of SNRS or has not been a member of SNRS in the last 2 years. To have a new member attributed to you, ask the new member to **write "Referred by" and your name and institution** at the top of the membership form.

The individual recruiting the greatest number of new members will receive \$50 off the registration fee for the 2005 conference. The institution with the most new members will receive a free exhibit at the 2005 conference.

### ***Discovery . . . Interaction . . . Online!***



***Southern Online Journal of Nursing Research*** brings you new research discoveries and insights with electronic ease and timeliness. Log on to the SNRS website at <http://snrs.org>, click on the SOJNR access link to view or download articles.

## SNRS Comes to "Hotlanta" February 3-5, 2005

Mark your calendars -- SNRS is coming to Atlanta, Georgia, February 3-5, 2005. This year's conference is being hosted by four Georgia Schools of Nursing: the Brydine F. Lewis School of Nursing at Georgia State University is lead host with co-hosts being the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University, the School of Nursing at the Medical College of Georgia, and WellStar School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University. The conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Perimeter Center in suburban Atlanta. The full service hotel is a delightful space for interacting and relaxing.

The Local Planning Committee and host schools are planning a reception for Thursday night following the graduate student poster session. On Friday evening, there will be a variety of activities from which to choose; attending the theater (Dancing at Lughnasa, Day of the Kings, Skinwalkers and Urban Bush Women are just a few of the performances that will be playing in town that evening), attending a sporting event (both the Atlanta Hawks, basketball, and the Atlanta Thrashers, ice hockey, might have games that evening), or visiting a historical site (such as the Martin L. King Jr. Center or the Carter Center). Alternatively, you might want to spend your downtime shopping at Perimeter Mall just across the street from the hotel. The mall is home to several restaurants including the Cheesecake Factory and Magiano's and stores such as Rich's-Macy's and Bloomingdales.

We hope you will join us for a conference filled with exciting intellectual pursuits as well as a wealth of relaxing entertainment related activities. See you in Atlanta!

# Recognizing excellence



## Award for Research in Minority Health

The purpose of the SNRS Award for Research in Minority Health is to recognize the contributions of an individual or group conducting and/or promoting research that has significance for improving the health care of minorities and other under-represented groups in the Southern region. Award criteria include consistent evidence of outstanding scholarly contributions to nursing knowledge in any of these areas: a. Improving access to care, b. Developing interventions that address the unique health care needs of under-served populations. c. Overcoming barriers to care or promoting receptivity of health care delivery systems to the groups unique health needs. The nomination packet is due Sept. 15.

## Distinguished Researcher Award

The purpose of the SNRS Distinguished Researcher Award is to recognize the contribution of an individual whose established program of research has enhanced the science and practice of nursing in the Southern region. Award Criteria include: 1) Consistent evidence of outstanding scholarly contributions to nursing knowledge, 2) sustained publishing record and an on-going program of research, and 3) documented contributions of research, and research-related activities within the Southern region. Nominations for the SNRS Distinguished Researcher Award must be made by current a SNRS member in the form of a nominations packet due September 15.

## Leadership in Research Award

The Leadership in Research Award is to recognize outstanding leadership, contribution, or promotion of nursing and health care research. The Award will be bestowed on an intermittent basis at the discretion of the Board of Directors. **The nominations packet is due September 15.**

Recognize your peers!

## SNRS Hartford Institute Geriatric Nursing Award

The purpose of the SNRS Hartford Institute Geriatric Nursing Award is to recognize the contributions of an SNRS member whose outstanding scholarly contributions and established program of research have enhanced the science and practice of geriatric nursing in the Southern region. Nominations for the SNRS Hartford Geriatric Institute Award must be made by a current SNRS member in the form of a nomination packet, submitted by September 15.

## D. Jean Wood Nursing Scholarship Award

The purpose of the D. Jean Wood Nursing Scholarship Award is to recognize the contributions of a researcher who has enhanced the science and practice of nursing in the Southern region. Those individuals who have had their paper or poster abstracts accepted for presentation at the SNRS Annual Conference may apply. To apply for consideration, an original and five copies of the paper (limit 12 pages) should be submitted by Nov. 1.

## How to apply

Additional details regarding eligibility and submission requirements for all award nominations are found at <http://www.snrs.org>.

## Dr. Debra Wallace 2004 SNRS Hartford Geriatric Nursing Award Recipient

Dr. Debra Wallace is a Professor and Director of Research at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. This year she was named the Daphne Doster Mastroianni Distinguished Professor of Nursing. She has established herself as a leading gerontological nurse scholar over the past 15 years. Her early work involved health services research into home and community based service use among older rural, female and diabetic adults. More recently, her focus has been on health promotion and maintenance of chronic diseases in older adults. An NINR funded study involved the use of National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey database to investigate heart attacks, obesity and physical activity in older adults.

Dr. Wallace established and coordinated the Gerontological Research Group at Tennessee which included senior and junior faculty members, community members and doctoral and masters students. In addition, she and a colleague initiated the Gerontological Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Wallace has collaborated with or directed graduate students on projects of caregiving, health promotion and spirituality, hip fracture prevention, fire safety, assisted living and diabetes self-management. She has served as a consultant to universities, lay organizations and community groups. She serves as a grant reviewer for the Department of Veterans Affairs Equity and Special Populations Panel and the Nursing Research Initiative.

Currently, Dr. Wallace is PI of an exploratory R24 Center funded through NIH's National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities. This center provides training, outreach and pilot research projects to improve health of African Americans and Hispanics with HIV/AIDS, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Dr. Wallace and her colleagues are developing physical activity, nutrition and lifestyle interventions in African American women and coordinating outreach projects with older CHF patients and Hispanic diabetics. She is co-investigator on a HRSA Community Gerontology Workforce grant that involves training nurses, nurse managers and nurses aides in higher standards of care for elderly in a 12 county region and as PI of a research grant examining cardiovascular disease in minority and older women. Lastly, Dr. Wallace has served as faculty on the AACN/Hartford Foundation grants to improve gerontology content in both undergraduate and graduate curricular, which are in their final year.

Dr. Wallace has been an active participant and served as coordinator of the Gerontology Special Interest Group (now RIG) for many years and was a Hartford Geriatric Nursing Institute Summer Scholar in 2001. Her work has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Baptist Health Foundation and Sigma Theta Tau International chapters and her scholarship has been disseminated in nursing and interdisciplinary journals.

# Governing Board



Donna Hathaway  
President 2004-2006  
[dhathaway@utmem.edu](mailto:dhathaway@utmem.edu)

Suzanne Yarbrough  
Vice-President 2003-2005  
Chair, Program Committee  
[syarbrough@excelsior.edu](mailto:syarbrough@excelsior.edu)

Darlene Gilcreast, RN, PhD  
Secretary 2002-2004  
Nominating Committee Liaison  
[gilcreast@uthscsa.edu](mailto:gilcreast@uthscsa.edu)

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By-Laws,  
Policies and Procedures  
[habermab@uab.edu](mailto:habermab@uab.edu)

Imagine  
your name here,  
an officer of SNRS;

Imagine yourself  
working with others  
to move forward  
nursing research in our  
Region

Imagine  
making a difference  
Through your leadership  
in SNRS!

## Officer nominations due Sept. 15

Southern Connections is a publication of  
the Southern Nursing Research Society.  
Please send comments, feedback and  
materials for submission to Dr. Patty  
Gray, Editor, [dpgray@vcu.edu](mailto:dpgray@vcu.edu).

Southern Nursing Research Society  
The University of Alabama  
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Box 870388  
Tuscaloosa AL 35487-0388  
1-877-314-7677

**ALL NOMINATIONS WITH CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2004**  
**Southern Nursing Research Society**  
**Nomination and Consent Form**

**Statement of Nomination:**

I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the Office of \_\_\_\_\_.

The following reasons support this nomination:

Signed, (SNRS Member) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Consent Statement (to be completed and signed by the Nominee):**

I am willing to serve in the Office of \_\_\_\_\_ if nominated and elected by the SNRS membership.

Signed, (SNRS Member & Nominee for Office) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate's Complete Information**

Full name & credentials \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position & Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**This form, with the Candidate's Statement attached, must be received by September 15, 2004.**

**Mail to:**

SNRS National Office  
Geri Stone, Manager  
College of Continuing Studies  
Box 870388  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0388