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President's Letter

New President sets direction for new year-announces activities including new Board member!

Sir Isaac Newton noted that, "If I have seen farther than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulders of giants." As a nurse who has always worked with older adults, I am keenly aware of those giants who came before, who had the vision, who prepared the way, and who did the difficult work so that we all might benefit. At this time of transfer of leadership, I am grateful to all the former presidents of SNRS who came before, starting with Dr. D. Jean Woods in 1986 and extending through the most recent term of **Dr. D.**

Patty Gray, who was instrumental in buttressing the infrastructure of SNRS. As we look forward to SNRS's Silver Anniversary in 2011, we seek to honor the best of the past and move ahead with a vibrant vision of the future.

In charting this year's path, I look forward to implementing the newly worded vision statement of the Society: Promoting Nursing Research in the South. I believe that this will be accomplished through several mechanisms-establishing the primacy of the Research Interest Groups, re-engagement and continued engagement of mid-level and senior scientists, and the initiation a robust plan for development to provide resources for members. Additionally, the Society will need to decide how actively it wants to connect with nurses in the Bahamas and the countries of the Caribbean and Latin America, an expansion of our membership that was put forth in 1991.

The Research Interest Groups (RIGs) are on the ascendency due to the hard work of the Board liaisons-**Drs. Barbara Haberman and Jennifer Wenzel** as well as the Chairs of the RIGs. This year SOJNR moves to its new format led by our new Managing Editor, **Dr. Judith Lewis**: special interest issues sponsored by the RIGs with the Education and Health Promotion RIGs acting as pathfinders. Editors for these issues are **Drs. Carol Boswell and Ellen Buckner, and Dr. Sheila Davis**, respectively. At the annual conference in Birmingham, for the first time the Parent Child RIG honored a student poster with the Marjorie Miles Award given to **Barbara Jackson** of University of Louisville for her poster entitled, Adaptation & Resiliency in African American Mothers. The Qualitative RIG sponsored a very successful pre-conference symposium, and for the second year in a row, a RIGs-sponsored symposia occurred during the regular meeting hosted by the Parent-Child RIG. As I promised when campaigning for this presidency, I plan to devote the energies of the Society to building the RIGs; this critical component allows us to offer a valuable resource for members outside of specialty organizations. Please contact [Dr. Jennifer Wenzel](#) if you are interested in leadership opportunities or to check out the [RIGs](#) in the [Members Only](#) section of the web site to become actively involved in one of the 15 RIGs.

One had only to sit in the audience during this year's Awards Luncheon to realize the depth and strength of the established researchers who are members of SNRS. Looking across the audience that day, SNRS certainly could be called the nexus of research in the southern region. We wish to acknowledge the continued support given by the established nurse scholars and reach out to cultivate new members of that group. Future meetings will actively recognize and involve the senior scientists in our midst; special activities and other networking opportunities are planned.

We are moving forward in our plans for the future as our 25th anniversary approaches in 2011. We aspire to achieve "\$250,000 by 25" through our Research Endowment Campaign. We are honored to have **Dr. Mary Walker**, Dean of the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing at Loyola University Chicago join the Board as the Director of Development. Dean Walker was President of SNRS from 1994-96. (Please note the changes to the [Bylaws](#) that were approved are now posted on the website that support this new position.)

Recently the [Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science](#)

steering committee met in Washington, DC, at the same time as the National Nursing Research Roundtable, and finalized plans for the State of the Science Congress in Washington, DC, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel from October 2-4. All of the regional research organizations were represented, and SNRS will have the honor of having five award winning members (Small Grants, Student Posters) share invited posters at the session: **Frances Ballard (University of North Carolina Greensboro), Rebecca Carbley (Emory University), Gwendolyn Hayes (University of Kentucky), Elizabeth Gressle Tovar (University of Kentucky), and Patricia Weinstein (University of Central Florida)**. We will advance the winners of the poster awards from our meeting in Birmingham. Additionally, the winners of the SNRS 'Nurse as Scientist' podcast contest, **Susan Baxley and Kathryn Daniel** of the **University of Texas- Arlington** will be competing with the three other regional research society's winners. Look for their podcast to be posted on the SNRS site soon. We wish them the best of luck!

SNRS is rapidly moving forward and will continue to communicate with members through electronic media. Please let us know what the Board and I can do to make this organization meet your needs! **Elaine J. Amella, PhD, GNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN President** PS - It's not too early to put '[SNRS-Baltimore February 11-14, 2009](#)' on your calendar! See Dr. Rice's article for future sites.

Thoughts from the Editor

Editor Summarizes SNRS Activities; Special Thanks to Dr. Boswell

This past year has been an exciting time for SNRS and nursing. Over the year, we have seen several changes and new opportunities. SNRS has appointed a new editor - Judith A. Lewis, PhD, RNC, FAAN Managing Editor - for the SOJNR. Dr. Lewis is busy with getting the SOJNR. The annual conference was a HUGE success during the month of February. Many of the items included within the newsletter reflect the different aspects which occurred during the conference. A pre-session for Doctoral students resulted in several "Top Ten Tips" which have been

provided for reflection. Although the Top Ten Tips were prepared for doctoral students, you can quickly see that the information included is valuable for other groups as well. In other information included within the newsletter, you have a letter from the outgoing president - Patty Gray. Her work over the past two years has been successful at moving SNRS forward into a new era. Thanks Patty for all of your work.

A special thank you goes out to Dr. Carol Boswell who is leaving her position as Editor of Southern Connections with this newsletter. During her tenure, the newsletter highlighted important issues for the organization and did an especially fine job of featuring the activities of the Research Interest Groups. The RIGS are the very heart of SNRS and through Carol's guidance, the membership felt recognized and valued, as well as having their work showcased. Dr. Boswell also effectively used the online format to create a publication for which we could all be proud. We are all indebted to Carol for her wonderful service to SNRS!

Upcoming Annual Conferences:

Marti Rice, President-Elect, SNRS

Places and dates for Annual Conferences 2009-2012 announced. We're going back to N.O. in 2012!!!

As you make your plans for the annual meetings of the Southern Nursing Research Society, the following information may be helpful. In 2009, the 23rd Annual Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore, February 11-14, 2009. The following year, 2010, the Annual Conference will be held at the Hilton Austin, Austin, TX, February 4 - 6, 2010. For our 25th Anniversary in 2011, the Annual Conference will be held in Jacksonville, FL at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville-Riverfront, February 17-19, 2011. Plan now for a gala event! In 2012, we will be going to New Orleans for our Annual Conference in 2012. As many of you know, we had planned to be in New Orleans for the 2006 annual conference but Hurricane Katrina scuttled those plans. The Local Planning Committee from New Orleans asked for another opportunity, so hopefully 2012 will be the year!

SNRS Special Awards

Three senior researchers receive top honors at annual meeting for excellence in scholarship.

This year the Awards Committee was honored to select three esteemed members whose lifetime achievements in scholarship merited special honors from their peers.

SNRS Distinguished Researcher Award

This award recognizes the lifetime achievements of an individual whose established program of research has enhanced the science and practice of nursing in the Southern region.

The 2008 recipient is **Nancy L. McCain, DNS, RN, FAAN**. Dr.

McCain is a Professor at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing. Her theoretical and empirical work in the area of psychoneuroimmunology (PNI) is internationally known and has guided her federally funded work in the areas of stress management interventions for persons with cancer and HIV. Furthermore, she has conducted research in the area of PNI and complimentary clinical interventions. Funders for this important work include the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute for Nursing Research and the National Center for Complimentary and Alternative Medicine. At Virginia Commonwealth University, she was key in developing an NINR P20 Center for Biobehavioral Clinical Research, which supports faculty research, and she has mentored students on prestigious pre-doctoral NRSA awards. She has served on numerous NIH study sections and is a reviewer for the *Journal of Advanced Nursing, Nursing Research, and Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*. Her nominator noted that, "The work that she has undertaken was a forerunner of what has now been identified at the NIH as clinical and translational research. The complexity of her work is reflected in the amount of national funding she has received and its impact can be partly judged by the extensive dissemination of her findings. ...Her mentorship is unassuming and thoughtful. She is a team player in all sense of that expression."

SNRS/ John A. Hartford Foundation Geriatric Research Award

This award recognizes the contributions of an individual whose established program of research has enhanced the science and practice of geriatric nursing in the Southern region.

The 2008 recipient is **Gail Davis, EdD, RN**. Dr. Davis is a Professor of Nursing in the College of Nursing at Texas Woman's University (TWU) in Denton. Her primary research interests have been in the area of arthritis, osteoporosis, and chronic pain management with older adults. In 2005, Dr. Davis' geriatric research and its practice applications were recognized by the American College of Rheumatology when she received its Master Clinician Award. She has published multiple book chapters and manuscripts in *Research in Nursing & Health*, *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. Her nominator wrote, "Dr. Davis is passionate about her work, cares about the older adults with whom she comes in contact, and is a genuinely sincere scholar who is interested in making contributions that will improve the quality of life for older adults with osteoporosis, arthritis, fractures and chronic pain. "

SNRS Award for Research in Minority Health

The purpose of this award is to recognize the contributions of an individual or a 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.

The 2008 recipient for the SNRS Award for Research in Minority Health is

Linda Moneyham DNS, RN, FAAN, Professor and Rachel Z. Booth Endowed Chair at University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Nursing and Senior Scientist at the Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education at The University of Alabama at Birmingham, and is a Visiting Research Professor at The University of South Carolina College of Nursing, Columbia, SC. She currently has an R01 to test the effectiveness of two formats for delivery of a peer

counseling intervention designed for rural women with HIV disease. Has multiple publications in journals such as International Journal of Nursing Studies and Nursing Research and has coauthored book chapters. Her nominators wrote, "Dr. Moneyham's research focuses on a highly vulnerable population of women in the southeastern United States, HIV-infected women. In particular, Dr. Moneyham has made significant contributions to our understanding of the process of stress, coping, and adaptation the life-threatening illness of HIV/AIDS." "She has dedicated herself and her professional career to improving the lives of HIV- infected women. She does not just study the women, she truly cares for them."

Annual Conference Awards Presented

D. Jean Wood Award honors manuscript from UAB researchers; Student poster presenters garner 9 awards!

The 2008 D. Jean Wood Nursing Scholarship Award was announced at the Society's Annual meeting in Birmingham, Alabama in February. The winning paper, "The Effectiveness of Psychoeducational Support Interventions on Quality of Life Among Rural Breast Cancer

Survivors," was authored by Karen Meneses, PhD, RN, FAAN, Patrick McNees, PhD, FAAN, Xiaogang Su, PhD, and Lauren A. Hassey, BSN. The research group is from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the University of Central Florida. The D. Jean Wood Nursing Scholarship Award, named in honor of the first SNRS President, recognizes the contributions of a researcher who has enhanced the science and practice of nursing in the Southern region. Read the [abstract](#).

The annual meeting showcased excellence in student scholarship as well. **Student Poster Awards** were presented for all 3 poster sessions. First place winners received a \$75 award, and second place winners received \$25. First authors of winning student posters (with institutional affiliation and poster title) were:

First place Session 1, Rebecca Carbley, Emory University NHW

School of Nursing, Feasibility and Effectiveness of Pedometer-Based Self-Monitoring to Increase Self-Efficacy and Physical Activity in African Americans with Metabolic Syndrome

First place Session 2, Elizabeth Tovar, University of Kentucky College of Nursing, Development of the Health Beliefs Related to Cardiovascular Disease (HBCVD) Scale

First place Session 3, Gwendolyn Hayes, University of Kentucky, GIS Mapping: Tobacco Smoke, Radon, and Lung Cancer

Second place, Session 1, Clarence Byrd, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Body Mass Index and Weight Perceptions in Pre-Hypertensive and Hypertensive Black Americans

Second place, Session 2, Barbara Jackson, School of Nursing University of Louisville, Adaptation & Resiliency in African American Mothers

Second place, Session 3, Mei-Kuei Tai, The University of Texas at Houston, Ambulatory Blood Pressure and Physical Activity in Heart Failure

Honorable mention, Session 1, Deborah Lekan University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Fatigue and Physical Activity in Older Men and Women after Myocardial Infarction

Honorable mention, Session 2, Mary Cazzell, University of Texas at Arlington, Adolescent Inhalant Use: Analysis and Assessment Using the Middle Range Theory of Adolescent Vulnerability to Risk Behaviors

Small Grants and Dissertation Awards

2007 Small Grant and Dissertation Award winners acknowledged with featured poster presentations at annual meeting.

In 2007, two aspiring doctoral scholars received support from SNRS for their dissertations and two. **Patricia Weinstein** from the University of Central Florida was selected to receive the Council for Advancement of Nursing Science/ SNRS Nursing Science Advancement Dissertation Grant Award for 2007. The title of her grant is *Awareness of Increased Risk for Heart Disease and Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Women with SLE*.

Frankie Ballard from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro was selected to receive the SNRS Dissertation Award for

2007. The title of her grant is *Homeless Sheltered Women's Health Promotion Behaviors*.

Selected to receive the two SNRS Small Grant Awards were:

Dr. Charlene Kreuger from the

University of Florida

at Gainesville for her proposal entitled,

Heart Rate Variability and Learning in the Preterm; and **Dr. Vanessa**

Johnson from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center for her proposal entitled,

Participation of Native Americans in Genetic and Genomic Research.

Aging/Gerontology RIG Update

Aging RIG honors Dr. Flood at Birmingham meeting; sponsoring symposium for 2009 meeting.

Eileen Rossen, Chair

Leanne Lefler, Co-Chair

The Aging/Gerontology Research Interest Group proudly announces that Dr. Meredith Flood from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte received our 1st "Rising Investigator Award" at our RIG meeting during the February, 2008 Southern Nursing Research Society's 22nd annual conference in Birmingham Alabama. This competitive award recognizes one Aging RIG member a year that conducts Gerontological nursing research "which has the potential to enhance the science and practice of gerontological nursing". Dr. Flood's work focuses on healthy and successful aging. I would like to thank our Awards Committee who reviewed the applications: Dr. Leanne Lefler, chair, and Drs. Elaine Souder, Catherine Cole, Pao Feng Tsai, and

Suzanne Prevost.

Our annual meeting was exciting for a number of reasons. The John A. Hartford Foundation, *Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity Program* and the *Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence* at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences co-hosted our RIG meeting and provided delicious refreshments. We had 36 attendees who shared their research interests and Dr. Flood gave a summary of her work. Many of the RIG members presented papers and/or poster at the conference. Please check out our RIG website at SNRS for our announcement for abstract submission for an Aging Gerontology RIG sponsored symposium for the 2009 conference. Hope to see you at the 2009 conference!

Letter from the Outgoing President

President Patty Gray Finishes 2-Year Term; Highlights Activities and Acknowledges Assistance

It's amazing how quickly two years goes by. When I began my term of office as President in 2006, SNRS had just signed a contract with an inclusive management firm, Resource Center for Associations. The transition to the new management company was viewed as an opportunity for SNRS to achieve enhanced effectiveness and growth. Looking back, our relationship with our management company has far exceeded our hopes. Our Executive Director,

David Stumph, has been incredibly patient in working through the thousands of details involved in completing the transition. Our fiscal practices have been examined and revised, contracts have been obtained for future meeting sites, and membership services have resulted in membership exceeding 1300 for the first time ever. Dave has helped expand the Board's knowledge of current recommended association management practices. We can feel confident that we are poised to serve as a national model for association effectiveness. Personally, I could not have asked for a more optimal support than has been provided by our headquarters staff. In addition to our Executive Director, it has

been my pleasure to work with Kristi Klinke who coordinates member services. She is unfailingly helpful and patient. The other members of the staff at headquarters, most recently Barbara Trumbo, are also dedicated to providing timely and effective service to the SNRS membership and the members of the Board.

Over the past two years, the members of the SNRS Governing Board have also worked diligently to help advance SNRS and our ability to achieve the purposes for which SNRS was founded. Together, the members of the Board formed a collective leadership group that I experienced as dedicated, enthusiastic, committed and creative. We dove into some necessary but at times tedious tasks--a detailed review of the Bylaws to help ensure that the organization is positioned to respond to the challenges of being a non-profit membership driven organization in the 21st century. We carefully monitored the fiscal status of the organization and with painstaking attention to detail, made investment decisions to provide for long term financial stability and growth. We were committed to the resurgence of the Research Interest Groups and to the research development of our membership. Both the RIGS and the small grants program have grown over the past two years and future growth is expected. Perhaps most exciting, we established a research endowment fund and have announced the \$250,000 Campaign for the 25th Anniversary. The achievement of this goal will expand our small grants program and ensure its viability into the future.

It has been an exciting and rewarding two years. Thanks to each of you for your participation and engagement in SNRS, from your financial contributions to the research fund or participation in the annual Silent Auction to your involvement as a presenter at the annual meeting; from your service as a chair of a RIG or state liaison to your leadership as a Board member; from your membership renewal to your contributions to our research endowment--the opportunities are boundless and your efforts are appreciated! I look forward to continuing to serve the organization in whatever ways I may. I hope each of you also consider your answer to the question-"what can I do and how can I continue to contribute to making SNRS the best possible regional research society?" My best wishes to each of you and again, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Membership passes 1,300 through the hard work of the Membership Committee! Opportunities for State Liaison exist.

This has been an exciting year with many accomplishments for SNRS and that definitely includes growth of the membership. If you did not get the news-the number of SNRS members went over 1,300 two weeks before the Birmingham 2008 conference. Many of you have contributed to this growth of our organization and I especially want to thank the Membership Committee who worked throughout the year to achieve this goal. The Membership Committee is made up of the State Liaisons from each of the 14 member states and is chaired by one of the members at large of the SNRS Board. I want to take this opportunity to send them a big "THANK YOU" to the committee (Liaisons) for their work. Ten of the 14 members gathered for a brief committee meeting during the 2008 Birmingham conference and met Kristi Klinko who coordinates our membership data at the Resource Centre. The membership is monitored by a State Liaison who welcomes new members, does follow up on members who have not renewed, and seeks new members from within their state. I encourage each of you to check out the SNRS website to learn more about the State Liaisons, their roles, and the current membership for each state. Virginia, Arkansas, and North Carolina state liaison positions recently became open so e-mail me if you have interest in being considered for any one of those positions.

Martha Alligood,
SNRS Board member and Director of Membership
alligoodmar@suddenlink.net

Welcome to Dr. Mary Walker - Newest Board Member

Dr. Walker first to assume position of Director of Development

In April, the Nominating Committee forwarded to the Board **Mary Klotz Walker, RN, PhD, FAAN**, Dean of the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing at the Loyola University Chicago as the Board member to fill the newly created Board position of Director of Development. Dr. Walker was the only qualified candidate who applied for the

position and in consultation with SNRS parliamentarian, it was decided not to call a special election with only one candidate, but to approve Dr. Walker as a motion by the Board. [Dr. Walker](#) was President of SNRS from 1994-96 and comes to us with impeccable fund-raising talents. We look forward to her wisdom and guidance as we move toward our goal of raising \$250,000 by our 25th Anniversary in 2011! More news to come!

Introduction of New Board Members

Dr. Anne Stiles from Texas Woman's University in Denton Elected Member-at-Large

Anne Scott Stiles, PhD, RN
Governing Board, Member-at-large
Chair, Communications Committee

Dr. Stiles is a professor and Associate Dean at Texas Woman's University in Denton Texas. She teaches in the doctoral program in the Research and Theory course, Instrumentation, and Explorations in Theory, along with chairing many dissertations. After assuming the role of Interim Associate Dean in the fall of 2007, she assumed the position of principal investigator for the Department of Education grant, Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN). This program will assist in reducing the faculty shortage by permitting doctoral fellows to progress full-time through the program with an emphasis on nursing education. They receive stipends and full payment of tuition and fees. Fellows also have the opportunity to get mentored assistance as they work with nurses and administration in a local hospital, Presbyterian Hospital of Denton, which has provided a 25% matching grant.

Dr. Stiles' research focus is maternal sensitivity and infant secure attachment in adolescent parent-infant dyads. She has conducted several small pilot studies, including one intervention study. She received training in conducting and scoring the Ainsworth's Strange Situation Procedure through Alan Sroufe and Elizabeth Carlson at the University of Minnesota. She also received training on the NCAST tools and the FIRST Parenting Intervention at the University of Washington. Another area of focus has been

personal space boundaries in which she has over 10 publications. As a part of a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Arizona in the early nineties, Dr. Stiles developed a theory of personal space boundaries with an accompanying instrument.

In service to her profession, Dr. Stiles reviews manuscripts for several journals, including the *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, and *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*. She is an active member of her local Sigma Theta Tau, Beta Beta chapter, serving on the executive board in recent years. Dr. Stiles joined SNRS in 1996 upon moving to the region. She has attended the conference nearly every year, has presented at several, and has served on the planning committee for two of the conferences. Her passion for research is fueled by the desire to empower nursing as a highly respected science in the health care arena.

As a new member of the SNRS governing board, and chair of the Communications Committee, Dr. Stiles has several goals. The web page will be updated on a regular basis, and has been enhanced with a new [Doctoral Student page](#). She envisions this page as a resource for doctoral students to find scholarships, conferences, and a place to chat with peers from other schools. The web page will also be getting updated with new information about each Research Interest Group (RIG) as the year progresses. The [Southern Connections Newsletter](#) will be published three times a year. The [Southern Online Journal of Nursing Research](#) will be published four times a year facilitated by Judy Lewis, Managing Editor. If you would like to serve on the Communications Committee or have any suggestions for the web site or any of these publications, please let me know at astiles@mail.twu.edu. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in this capacity.

Dr. Mona Shattell of University of North Carolina at Greensboro Elected Secretary

Mona M. Shattell, PhD, RN
Governing Board, Secretary

Dr. Shattell is Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). She teaches undergraduate

psychiatric/mental health nursing, and a graduate law and policy course in addition to mentoring undergraduate students in research and serving on multiple doctoral dissertation committees. She is the co-faculty advisor to an interdisciplinary UNCG student organization *Health and Social Justice (HSJ)* which aims to connect the community and *HSJ* members to improve access to health resources, expand students' experiences through community involvement and education, and facilitate discussion and awareness of health disparities.

Her research has focused primarily on mental health, health care environments, patient-provider relationships, and health disparities in the access, use, and perception of mental health services. One of her current projects is a feasibility study of a cognitive-behavioral group therapy intervention for depressed Spanish-speaking Latina women. Dr. Shattell facilitates a community-based participatory research team comprised of community members and academic researchers from multiple disciplines to conduct mental health research for Latina women.

Dr. Shattell is participating in the Sigma Theta Tau International Mentored Leadership Program (formerly known as Chiron Mentoring Program) to learn the role of scholarly journal editor from mentor Dr. Sandra Thomas, editor of *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. Dr. Shattell is an Associate Editor of *Issues in Mental Health Nursing* and she shares (with New Zealander Dr. Tony MacCulloch) a monthly column titled, "Comments, Critique, and Inspiration." Currently, Dr. Shattell is the principal investigator on a study of the quality of the peer-review process, which she is conducting with co-investigators Dr. Peggy Chinn, Dr. Sandra Thomas, and Dr. Richard Cowling.

Dr. Shattell joined SNRS in 1999 during her first year of her doctoral program. The following year, in 2000, she joined the Communications Committee, serving first as a student representative (2000-2002) and then as a regular member (2002-2006). In 2006, she became a member of the Membership Committee as the North Carolina State Liaison. This year she was elected to the SNRS Governing Board as the Secretary.

Dr. Shattell's initial goal is to assemble a committee of Society members to assist in developing policies and procedures related to archiving documents of historical importance to the Society, and to begin planning for a "History of SNRS" presentation for the 25th anniversary celebration. Dr. Shattell extends her gratitude to the following SNRS members who have already agreed to serve on this committee: Dr. Barbara Holtzclaw, Dr. Debra Wallace,

Dr. Sandra Thomas, and Dr. Susan Appel. Anyone interested in joining this committee should email Dr. Shattell at mona.shattell@gmail.com.

SNRS Endowment Fund and Investment Strategies

Treasurer Carolyn Lewis explains newly adopted conservative investment strategy and endowment fund.

The SNRS Board of Directors decided to invest the Society's Reserve Account funds, approximately 85% of SNRS's annual operating costs, as a means of maximizing its value. Increased interest income will then allow additional funds to be set aside in the newly established Research Endowment Fund; when the Board met last September it was decided that \$10,000 would be set aside as seed money for the Fund. The goal is to increase this Endowment Fund to \$100,000 over the next 5 - 10 years, thus assuring our ability to support member's research through dissertation and grant awards.

During July and August 2007, Board members were surveyed regarding choices for financial investment of reserve funds and results were compiled by the investment firm of Citigroup Smith Barney. During the September 2007 meeting, the Board reviewed the recommendations as proposed, and agreed to adopt a 'conservative' investment approach, which should garner an 8% return on investment. Maturities on investments for the operating fund will be limited to one year or less. The Executive Director and Treasurer will monitor investments closely and, working with the investment firm, determine appropriate adjustments as needed. These moves should insure continued solvency of SNRS.

Opportunity for SNRS leadership - Editor of Southern Connections!

Leadership opportunity through Editorship

With the resignation of Dr. Carol Boswell, the Board invites the membership to apply for the Editor position for Southern Connections. The Editor plays a key role in showcasing the work of members, as well as assuring members receive news of the

organization and the scholarly community. Editorship of this online newsletter involves regular interface with the Chair of the Communications Committee, Dr. Anne Stiles, as well as staff at the Resource Center, who provide operational guidance. If you're a detail-oriented individual who can work against deadlines and would like an opportunity for growth and leadership in SNRS please contact Dr. Stiles at astiles@mail.twu.edu.

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