

NLN

## NLN MEMBER UPDATE

**National League  
for Nursing**

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For nearly six years now — can you believe it? — Dr. Diane Skiba has been introducing the readers of *Nursing Education Perspectives* to the new technologies our students seem to understand so well. Through her [Emerging Technologies](#) column, a lot of us first learned about blogs, tweets, and other manifestations of social networking and Nursing Education 2.0. Well, the NLN is now officially aboard. We have a new Facebook page that will enable nurse educators to connect with one another. As you know, the NLN is totally committed to being the voice for nursing education, and we cannot accomplish this without your voice. So please sign onto Facebook and let us hear from you. But not only you — your colleagues and friends are welcome aboard as well.



facebook

The NLN's Facebook page is set up as an open group that provides immediate access to news and information, including articles that concern nursing education and nursing workforce development. There will be a discussion board for exchanging information and ideas, and, of course, a wall for posting messages. We are delighted about being part of this exciting means of communication, but without you, it will not be as good as it can be.

As you read this, I am in Houston, along with NLN president Dr. Cathie Shultz and our new chief program officer, Dr. Elaine Tagliareni. We are here for the third and final gathering convened by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Institute of Medicine as "The Forum on the Future of Nursing: Education." We are honored that Cathie will provide testimony, outlining the NLN vision for the future of nursing education. And Elaine is a panelist for today's discussion, "What We Should Teach." We are one of 12 organizations selected to offer testimony.





And speaking of Nursing Education 2.0: A live webcast of the meeting will be available via a link on [www.thefutureofnursing.org](http://www.thefutureofnursing.org). You may tweet your comments and observations using #IFNforum (be sure to follow the Initiative Twitter feed @FutureofNursing to access behind-the-scenes news). Or you may leave a comment on the Future of Nursing blog or write on the Facebook wall created for the forum. Goodness, I sound so technologically savvy!

At the NLN, we are all truly appreciative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Institute of Medicine for shining the spotlight on nursing education through this forum. Ours is a very dynamic field, and what we do has major implications for national and global health. I will keep you informed!

Before I close, I want to acknowledge February as Black History Month. There is always a lot to learn about history, and February has been selected to have this unique focus. So from the nursing perspective, let me whisper with respect and admiration the names *Mary Seacole*, *Mable Staupers*, *Rbetaugh Dumas*, and *Mary Elizabeth Carnegie* from our past and *Hattie Bessent*, *Vernice Ferguson*, *Juanita Fleming*, *Barbara Nichols*, *Gloria Smith*, and *May Wykle* from our here and now. The list is not comprehensive and could be much longer, but it will give you a taste of the contributions made by African American nurses. Look them up and you will be amazed by their accomplishments.



Finally, just to keep you updated, here are some small bits of information. First, there is still time to take advantage of the Super Early Bird rates for our Las Vegas Education Summit (September 29 to October 2). But the deadline is coming up on February 28. It is time to act. Details are online at [www.nln.org/summit/index.htm](http://www.nln.org/summit/index.htm).

And we have a new PhD at the NLN. G. Anthony Benners, whom many of you have met at our previous Summits, has been granted (really earned) a doctorate by Fordham University. A psychometrician, Dr. Benners plans, implements, manages, and monitors all psychometric and technical requirements for NLN Testing Services, assuring the validity of data, analytical methods, and results. In collaboration with nurse educators, he supports projects and research to strengthen current NLN testing programs and develop new psychometric measures relevant to nursing education. We are all very proud!

February has been a difficult month with the loss of our NLN nursing leader Dr. Ruth Corcoran. I attended her memorial service in Florida this past Saturday. Please know that upon her retirement, the [Ruth D. Corcoran Fund for Nursing Education Research](#) was established by the NLN Foundation for Nursing Education. There will be many beneficiaries for years to come thanks to the generosity of NLN members and friends. I hope you will consider making a contribution to Ruth's special fund. Feel free to call 212-812-0408 or email [foundation@nln.org](mailto:foundation@nln.org).



February has also been the month of a very different tragedy. I am referring to the loss of life that occurred at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Our thoughts and warm wishes go out to the families, faculty, staff, and administration of the university.

The next time I write to you it will be March, the beginning of the end of our long and deep winter. Yippee! With luck, those of us in the frozen Northeast will see some crocuses by then!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverly Malone', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer

**Next Issue of the NLN Member Update:**

Monday, March 8, 2010. Write to Leslie Block at [lblock@nlm.org](mailto:lblock@nlm.org) to submit items for consideration.

Visit [www.nlm.org/newsletter/index.htm](http://www.nlm.org/newsletter/index.htm) to view previous issues of *NLN Member Update*.

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