How are Nurse Educators Doing?
Let’s put some numbers on the board...

By popular demand, the topic of the NLN’s annual fall survey is…

Workload, Compensation, and Teaching Practices

- What classroom and clinical teaching challenges do nurse educators face today?
- How do nurse educator salaries compare to colleagues’ in clinical practice?
- Are compensation and workload issues undermining nurse faculty retention?

We are partnering with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to examine these issues so that we may contribute to the base of knowledge that will shape the future of nursing education.

Please help us find out the answers. The survey is open to ALL nurse faculty and administrators employed in prelicensure or graduate-level RN programs.

Go to

Get a 10% discount!
Survey respondents will receive a discount on selected 2006 NLN research publications. Call NLN Publications at 800-669-1656 and mention that you are a survey respondent when placing your order.

Need help?
Call 800-669-1656 x512 or send email to research@nln.org.

Your privacy is protected.
This survey is strictly anonymous.

- We will NOT collect or store any identifying information.
- This website uses industry-leading technology to keep your communications safe.

Simulation in Nursing Education: From Conceptualization to Evaluation

The National League for Nursing is accepting pre-publication orders for Simulations in Nursing Education: From Conceptualization to Evaluation. Order by December 15 and save $10: Pay only $39.95 (members) or $49.95 (non-members), including shipping and handling. Pre-publication orders will be shipped in January 2007.
Coming Up from the NLN

Ongoing
Indiana University School of Nursing Online Courses

November 10/Kansas City, MO
Creative Teaching Strategies for Clinical Learning and Evaluation
Linda J. Caputi, EdD, RN
Co-sponsored with the Missouri League for Nursing

November 10/Cleveland, OH
Effective Clinical Teaching and Evaluation Workshop
Patricia Mahoney, MSN, RN, CNE
Co-sponsored with the Ohio League for Nursing

November 15/near Philadelphia
Innovative Strategies to Evaluate Learning Outcomes
Tracy A. Ortelli, MS, RN; Patricia Mahoney, MSN, RN, CNE
Co-sponsored with Abington Memorial Hospital Dixon School of Nursing

February 23/St. Louis, MO
Creative Teaching Strategies: Enhancing Classroom Learning
Judith W. Herrman, PhD, RN
Co-sponsored with the Missouri League for Nursing

April 11/Anaheim, CA
Innovative Strategies to Evaluate Learning Outcomes
NSNA Pre-Convention Faculty Workshop
Co-sponsored with the National Student Nurses' Association

May 9/Lewisburg, PA
Faculty Development Workshop
Co-sponsored with the Pennsylvania Association of Practical Nurse Administrators

July 18-19/Breckinridge, CO
NLN Preparation Course for Certification as a Nurse Educator Pre-Conference Faculty Workshop International Nurse Educators Conference in the Rockies
Co-sponsored with the Centennial Area Health Education Center

Audio-Web Seminar Series
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm ET

November 14
Meeting Students’ Needs When English Is a Second Language
Sandra Kubala, MSN, RN, ANP; Margaret Gas, MSN, RN

November 28
Innovation in Nursing Education: A One-Year Clinical Residency Program
Judith W. Herrman, PhD, RN; Cynthia Diefenbeck, PsyD, APRN

December 5
Faculty Leadership Development: Preceptorships in Nursing Education
Carol A. Boswell, EdD, RN; Jane F. Sumner, PhD, APRN, BC

Spring Audio-Web Seminars
January 30 - March 6, 2007
Visit www.nln.org/profdev/audiowebindex.htm for more details
Dear Members,

It is with deep gratitude and respect for the extraordinary NLN staff that I present the results of our work, during my last full year as the chief executive officer of the National League for Nursing.

It is hard for me to imagine the time when I will not be a part of this wonderful organization on a daily basis. However, I am confident that with Dr. Beverly Malone as your next CEO, the NLN will build on prior accomplishments and achieve even greater eminence.

For the past nine years, I have organized my Executive Report to you according to the NLN Strategic Plan. I have continued that tradition for my final report to you, our NLN members.

Warm regards,

Ruth D. Corcoran
Executive Report

Excellence and Innovation

In keeping with the language change in our mission and this goal, Excellence in Nursing Education will be a primary homepage link on the NLN website and will include the new Model of Excellence in Nursing Education®, the Centers of Excellence program, Hallmarks of Excellence, and nursing education diversity. Additional information will be added as needed.

The Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education Program continues to thrive. COE designations were bestowed on three schools for 2006-2009: Indiana University for Creating Environments that Enhance the Pedagogical Expertise of Faculty; the University of Oklahoma for Creating Environments that Promote Student Learning and Professional Development; and for the first time, for nursing education research. Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing is a small, non-research institution illustrating that it is not necessary to be part of a research-intensive institution to create environments that advance the science of nursing education.

Conceived and created by the NLN, the Excellence in Nursing Education Model has been transformed into an elegant and informative printed piece to serve as a reference for faculty, students, researchers, and others supporting the advancement and excellence of nursing education. It will be distributed and used by faculty and graduate students in teacher preparation programs to examine the concept of excellence in nursing education and to strategize about how to achieve it.

NLN print publications highlight excellence. The May/June issue of Nursing Education Perspectives featured a report from the Nursing Education Advisory Council and the NLN’s Hallmarks of Excellence in Nursing Education®. That issue also included “Creating a Vision for the Future of Nursing Education: Moving Toward Excellence Through Innovation,” a guest editorial by Board of Governors’ member Pam Ironside and NLN chief program officer Terry Valiga. The spring 2006 issue of Shaping the Future focused on excellence.

Faculty Development

Computer adaptive testing for the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) examination became available on January 2, 2006 at Applied Measurement Professional’s 120 testing centers nationwide. CNE candidates are able to take the examination year round, Monday through Friday. It is anticipated that 350 qualified candidates will have taken the CNE examination by the end of the year.

The annual NLN Education Summit attendance was at its highest level with 1600 participants that included nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education from all 50 states and the US territories.

NLN workshops and audio-web seminars continue to be popular and well-attended. The second NLN technology conference, November 2-4, featured an entire day devoted to simulation and the outcomes of the NLN/Laerdal research project. The NLN will publish Simulation in Nursing Education: From Conceptualization to Evaluation by the close of 2006.

The e-communities module, a bulletin board application that integrates with our membership database, is being successfully used by members of NLN advisory councils, task groups, and committees. Open e-communities, where the greater nurse educator community can discuss topics of national interest, will soon be available. Discussions are currently planned about the new Excellence Model; strategies to integrate technology into nursing education, a follow-up to the November technology conference; the Healthful Work Environment Tool Kit; innovation in nursing education; and results of the study on integration of informatics in the curriculum.

The NLN continues to receive requests from schools for copyright permission to use our nurse educator competencies as the basis of or framework for their faculty performance evaluations, to create internal surveys to identify faculty needs, or as part of their graduate programs in teacher preparation. More than 750 copies of The Scope of Practice for Academic Nurse Educators have been sold in the last few months alone. It is clear that many schools and faculty are finding the NLN’s nurse educator competencies to be extremely helpful in defining and refining the faculty role.

Nursing Education Research

In line with an NLN research goal to provide and interpret data about the nurse educator workforce, the annual fall survey in 2006, in collaboration with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching is Workload, Compensation, and Teaching Practices. It is designed to enable comparisons with faculty in other academic disciplines and help nursing education administrators and others to demonstrate differences in workload, make the case for increasing nurse faculty salaries to a competitive level, and improve recruitment and retention.

This joint effort—with the Carnegie Foundation’s national nursing education study headed by Dr. Patricia Benner—is one of a series of integrated, comparative studies of education for professional understanding, integrity, and practice in the fields of clergy, engineering, law, medicine, and nursing. Site visits to observe classroom and clinical teaching/learning encounters and to survey teachers and students were made to nine schools—
with a reputation for excellence in teaching—that offer pre-RN licensure programs. Data from these observations and surveys require validation among faculty in non-visited schools. The NLN was invited to collaborate on this project because of its reputation and standing in the nursing education community, as well as its capability to survey faculty in all types of RN programs.

A new three-year project with Laerdal Medical will focus on the development of a community of nurse educators who will share information on the use of simulation in nursing education. The cornerstone of the virtual community will be a web-based Simulation Resource and Innovation Center that will provide core educational programs for faculty, resources such as scenarios and tips for curriculum integration, and a broad range of networking opportunities.

During the past few months, a survey of NLN grant recipients was conducted to determine the impact of the grants on their professional careers. Responses are still arriving and data are being tabulated, but preliminary results indicate the following:

- 45% indicated this was the first grant they ever received
- 83% went on to receive other non-NLN awards ranging from $100 to $100,000
- 40% have been promoted since receiving their first NLN grant
- 43% have received tenure since receiving their first NLN grant
- 20% achieved a higher level position at another school since receiving their first NLN grant
- 47% were appointed to committees of significance or of importance since receiving their first NLN grant

The fully redesigned and more fully marketed *A Guide to State Approved Schools of Nursing* 2006, RN and *A Guide to State Approved Schools of Nursing* 2006, LPN sold out its original print run. *Nurse Educators 2006: A Report of the Faculty Census Survey of RN and Graduate Programs* was published in July. The disseminated news release attracted a great deal of interest from the press resulting in requests for interviews and subsequent articles including one in the *New York Times* that prominently cites NLN statistics.

For the first time, an electronic version of the Annual Survey of State Boards of Nursing was disseminated. In the fulfillment of a long-time goal, we now have direct links to the NLN database to allow direct revision of the non-member data records on an annual basis.

### Public Policy

The public policy content on our website has been expanded to include an archive of the NLN’s public policy statements and letters and the monthly *Nursing Education Policy* electronic newsletter. Also included in the more comprehensive site are background information and one-pagers on public policy issues of concern to the NLN membership, detailed information on the NLN’s Public Policy Action Center, and email alert alerts.

As part of the ANSR Alliance, the NLN co-sponsored a congressional briefing entitled “The Economic Value of Nursing.” The NLN joined HPNEC (Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition) in urging the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies to restore funding to the Title VII health professions programs to at least the FY 2005 level of $300 million, and to provide an increase for the Title VIII nursing programs in FY 2007 to $175 million. A similar letter was sent to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies.

Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) solicited the NLN to be one of the original endorsing organizations for his Troops to Nurse Teachers program.

In response to efforts by the AMA and other physician groups to restrict the scope of practice of non-physician medical providers, the NLN joined 24 organizations representing more than three million health care professionals, including nurses, psychologists, and other licensed providers, in forming the Coalition for Patients’ Rights (CPR) in June. The CPR’s goal is to oppose and urge an end to such efforts, and thereby ensure that consumers have access to the health care providers of their choice.

### Testing

Impressive strides this year in the development and provision of assessment and evaluation services to the nursing community continue to be made.

- Score reports online. Through a secure website, reports are available immediately following the scoring process for both online and paper/pencil tests.
- Online test administration is available for the RN & PN Pre-Admission Examinations and the RN & PN Diagnostic Readiness Tests. As of the fall 2006 semester, these examinations are supplemented by 22 RN & PN Achievement Tests.
- Two master’s level criterion-reference tests, Pathophysiology and Pharmacology, were released in time for use in the fall 2006 semester.
- A new NCLEX Simulation Examination (SimExam) has been released in time for use in the fall 2006 semester, providing the examinee with an experience similar to that of the NCLEX. Each item is based on the NCLEX-RN test blueprint. The score report will reflect the examinee’s statement of performance and the examinee’s strengths and weaknesses in each of the content areas of the examination. It will also serve as a study guide for NCLEX-RN preparation.
- Preliminary results from the NLN’s RN pre-Admission test (PAX-RN) validation study will be released this fall. Principal investigator Dr. Francene Weatherby has found the test to be both a reliable and valid predictor of students’ performance in completing their nursing programs.
Membership

Individual and schools of nursing membership continues to grow. As of September 2006 you are one of almost 19,000 NLN members representing nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education across the USA.

We are all proud and excited about the new NLN Ambassador Program. The purpose of this program is to engage our members in an effort to ensure that faculty and educational leaders in all schools of nursing are kept informed about the NLN’s programs, grant opportunities, and member involvement initiatives. In addition, it is designed to serve as a mechanism for faculty to have a voice about things of concern to them. Finally, the Ambassador Program is designed to make the NLN increasingly visible in all schools of nursing and enhance the organization’s role as a leader in nursing education. The inaugural group of ambassadors was announced at the 2006 Summit. Our ultimate goal is to appoint an ambassador in every school of nursing. And we are pleased that one of the NLN’s most distinguished and long-standing members, Dr. Diane Billings, is working with the chief program officer to implement this program.

The NLN continues to make itself and its products and services known to the broad nursing community through exhibits at major conferences. In 2006, the NLN staffed an exhibit booth at meetings of the following organizations: American Academy of Nursing, American Organization of Nurse Executives, Eastern Nursing Research Society, National Nursing Staff Development Organization, and National Student Nurses’ Association. Plans for where the NLN will exhibit in 2007 are underway along with discussions of how we can track the impact such activities have on membership.

NLN Foundation for Nursing Education

The NLN Foundation, now in its fourth year, continues to make significant progress toward meeting its fund raising goals and in strengthening its infrastructure. It has launched its first annual giving campaign, using both traditional direct mail and the Internet to solicit unrestricted annual gifts from NLN members. As a special incentive, all donors who give $50 or more receive a commemorative lapel pin.

As of September, funds raised in 2006 total approximately $660,000. This figure includes the second grant for a major multi-site simulation project; funds for a new faculty mentoring program; and a newly established endowment for nursing education research.

Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education

Application Timeline

- December 1: Preliminary application and fee due
- February – March: COE consultant visits school
- May 31: Final application and fee due
- June – July: COE Review Panel meets
- July: All applicants are notified
- September: Centers of Excellence are announced at the annual NLN Education Summit

The NLN Excellence in Nursing Education Model© was unveiled to great acclaim and exhilarating discussion at the 2006 Education Summit. A visual representation of the complexity of excellence in nursing education and all the elements that need to be attended to if we are to achieve excellence in our schools, the model served as a jumping off point for Case Studies in Transformation, the Summit’s plenary session.

The Excellence in Nursing Education Model is not intended to be exhaustive or all-inclusive. Its purpose is to facilitate understanding of the complexity of the educational enterprise and stimulate thinking among faculty and students about the concepts of excellence and achieving excellence in nursing education.

Each member school and individual member will receive one copy of the model in the mail this fall. Other faculty members can receive one free copy upon request. Bulk orders will be filled at $1.00 apiece in order to cover our costs. Contact glamberti@nln.org, 212-812-0324.