Welcome back from our President

Hello! My name is Elisa Panchal, President of the Rutgers Camden Student Nurses Association (SNA). I hope you all have had an amazing summer. As it comes to an end, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2013-2014 school year. It is sure to be an exciting year for all!

I am certain that we will learn and grow together. I strongly encourage you to become involved in the SNA. I cannot express the importance of being involved in association that values professional development and community service.

Myself and the rest of the SNA representatives will be visiting your classes early in the semester to answer any questions that you may have about the SNA. I wish you a successful Fall 2013 and hope to meet many of you at SNA events throughout the year.

Elisa Panchal
President – Student Nurses Association
Rutgers Camden School of Nursing

SNA Senior Class Officers

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Rutgers Camden Student Nurses Association
Mission Statement

The mission of the Student Nurses Association is to enhance the experience of nursing school in a positive way for all School of Nursing students through a combination of educational and philanthropic efforts both on-campus at Rutgers-Camden and off-campus in the city of Camden, NJ.

The Student Nurses Association shall also act as a medium through which the student body of the School of Nursing and the faculty of the School of Nursing collaborate on extra-curricular nursing-related activities and on the aforementioned efforts at Rutgers-Camden and in the surrounding community.

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SNA elections

All students enrolled in the RUC SON are automatically members of the Student Nurses Association for free! Each fall students are elected to represent each class.

Freshman and sophomore classes will elect 2 Community Leaders.

The Juniors will elect a full executive board to represent their class for both junior and senior year. Elected positions include: Vice President (will transition to President at the end of Junior year), Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, and 2 Community Leaders.

The Senior executive board will appoint 2 seniors to fill the positions of Historian and GAO chair. Anyone interested in these positions should contact a senior class member of the SNA.

SNA senior officers will be visiting classes in the first 2 weeks to introduce ourselves and discuss open positions for this year. This year elections will be held the 3rd week of school.

SNA Position Descriptions

President – The President’s duties include conducting meetings, appointing committees, overseeing elections, and signing documents and correspondence. The President also carries out other administrative tasks spelled out in the By Laws. The President should be a strong leader, be comfortable with public speaking, and have the ability to help the SNA carry out its agenda. The position of President is assumed by the Vice President upon completion of the junior year curriculum.

Vice President (VP)- The VP is a junior who assists the President in fulfilling their duties. The VP will automatically transition to the President upon successful completion of junior year.

Secretary- The secretaries maintain records of the SNA, are responsible for correspondence, attend meetings and take/publish minutes. There are 2 secretaries – one from the junior and senior classes.

Treasurer- The treasurers are the custodians of the organization’s funds, receiving and disbursing when authorized. The treasurers will create and distribute monthly statements and a biannual report. There are 2 treasurers – one from the junior and senior classes.

Public Relations Officer (PRO) – The PROs are responsible for maintaining the SNA website, the SNA section of the School of Nursing website, sending emails to RUCSON or the entire RUC student while working closely with CL’s and Historian. When appropriate, the PROs will send out a newsletter to RUCSON faculty and students. There are 2 PROs – one from the junior and senior classes.

Community Leader (CL) - The CL’s work together to organize and implement community service efforts at RUC and in the surrounding community. They also assist in organization of fundraisers to raise money for philanthropic events. There are 2 CL’s from each of the 4 classes.

GAO Chairperson: The GAO chair is a senior who serves as the liaison between the SNA and the SGA. The person in this position will attend meetings with both groups. This position is appointed each fall during SNA elections.

Historian: The Historian is a senior who is responsible for taking photographs of SNA events and uploading them to the SNA Sakai page. The Historian works closely with the CL’s and PROs as a member of the Community Outreach Committee. This position is appointed each fall during SNA elections.
Faculty Contribution:

Dear Rutgers Camden School of Nursing SNA Members:

It is with great pleasure to be your newly appointed SNA advisor. I look forward to helping you make this a productive and meaningful year. One of my goals is to help mentor your professional development by providing you with access to educational resources and leadership opportunities. An important personal initiative is to help you expand on your community service initiatives.

On a personal note, I am a certified nurse midwife, having delivered over 2,000 babies. I am no longer in active practice but stay connected and current by teaching inpatient obstetric certification review courses and doing PRN outpatient prenatal care. I also am the faculty coordinator for the international/global health initiatives for the School of Nursing. This school year, we will have classes with travel to Bolivia (fall 2013 – it’s not too late to register), as well as Brazil, South Africa and Guatemala (spring 2013).

Please note that I am always willing to speak with students regarding ideas, problems, or suggestions relating to the SNA. I will be attending your meetings and again, looking forward to working with you.

Warm regards,

Dr. Nancy Powell

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Fall schedule of events

Fall Clothing Sale – September 16-30. Show your pride for the School of Nursing by purchasing gear. Order forms will be distributed and samples will be available for sizing help!

SNA Elections: 3rd week of Semester

Ben Franklin Bridge Walk/Run Benefit hosted by SNA and Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Mu Chapter - Date TBA

RUC Homecoming – Saturday, October 12

The Clothesline Project – Monday, October 14 co-sponsored with the RUC Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the Office of Victim Assistance and Violence Prevention to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Cathedral Kitchen Thanksgiving Service Event – November 4, 2013 - 5 volunteer spaces available

Externship and Career fair – Open to RUCSON Juniors and Seniors - November 20, 2013

NJ State Nurses Association Convention
October 9-11, Atlantic City, NJ

More events will be announced soon!
National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)

New for 2013-2014! The RUCSON and the SNA strongly believe in professional development and building relationships with other nursing students and professionals. To further this goal, all students in the RUCSON will become members of the National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA).

Membership dues have been paid through student fees. All students will need to complete a membership application which will be distributed at the beginning of semester. Membership in NSNA can provide leadership and career building opportunities, access to scholarships, and expand our knowledge of standards, ethics, and skills that we will need as professional practicing nurses. If you don’t receive an application, please see your teachers, advisor, support staff or SNA leader.

SNA FAQ

How can I join the SNA?
All students of RUCSON are automatically members of the SNA. Class representatives are elected each fall or whenever a position becomes vacant. Please consider running for an open position.

Why should I be involved in the SNA?
Involvement in the SNA is a really fulfilling way to contribute to our community both inside and outside of our school. There are many opportunities to network with fellow students and get to know our faculty and staff. It also looks really good as an extracurricular activity on a job application and resume. Each year, thousands of nursing students in our area graduate, pass the NCLEX, and seek jobs. In addition to a license and grades, students need to show what differentiates them from all the other new graduates out there.

Can anyone attend meetings?
Meetings are open to all students. Once all class and clinical schedules are made we will be setting a time and day for our weekly meetings. The meeting schedule usually changes each semester.

How do I find out about events in which the SNA is participating? Does the SNA have a website?
The SNA has a page on the RUC School of Nursing homepage under “Current students”. We also are working on updating the SNA section in the School of Nursing Student Lounge in Ecollege. Executive board members of the SNA are likely in your classes and will be distributing information and making announcements throughout the school year. We are also committed to sending out a newsletter several times per semester.

What if I have an idea for an event? What if I am part of another group that would like co-sponsor an event with the SNA?
The SNA is always looking for new and innovative ways to reach out to our community both on and off campus. We are also always looking to build coalitions and relationships with other RUC groups. If you have an idea for an event, you can speak to any member of the SNA or feel free to come to a meeting to pitch your idea!