MN NACNS President Update

It is a great pleasure to serve as the 2018 MN NACNS President. I have felt such a personal connection with the focus and theme of the Minnesota affiliate, especially over the past 2 years. The 2018 theme, The CNS as a Catalyst for Change: Leading through Unity continues to focus on the CNS role and the importance of community, networking, and leading change together.

My personal practice over the past few years has offered me the unique opportunity to focus on the process of system integration. Integrating the nursing practice and processes of 3 separate critical care units, from 3 separate acute care hospitals into a single, united, critical care entity. This is not something that happens overnight, it is complex, requires the work of many key stakeholders, and I am proud to say, requires the special knowledge and skill of the Clinical Nurse Specialist. This work in particular has demonstrated the strength of unity and the great change that can occur with that strength of unity. Uniting together in a common goal is in itself a catalyst for change. A team must unite to create change!

As Clinical Nurse Specialists we know the power of unity! The NACNSs CNS listserv, national and local conferences are examples of networking and unity allowing us to share what we do, how we do it, and share the successes and failures of what we do with each other. The CNS relies on networking to understand community standard. Communities includes those like entities, domains, populations etc. within each of our respective care areas. What if we expand our communities a bit further, what would it be like to have the state of Minnesota as a community? Imagine processes like systematic report, bedside handoff, bladder management protocols, etc. created by key stakeholders across the state, implemented across the state, with the united support of CNSs from across the state! Unity to bust through barriers. Unity to eliminate sacred cows. Unity to gain key stakeholder buy-in. Unity to elevate the nursing practice. Unity to increase patient safety. Unity to achieve optimal patient outcomes. Unity to save lives. Unity is completely possible!

The MN NACNS has taken steps to increase unity, though much has been done, there is still so much to do! Increasing incorporation of technology to pull our members together, starting conversations through the new website platform on current topics, conference and education planning to meet the

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New Opportunity for MN NACNS Members—Apply Today!

Eligibility criteria include:

- A minimum of one year of current MN NACNS membership
- Applicant is a current, dues-paying MN NACNS affiliate member and maintains membership through the date of NACNS conference attendance.
- Applicant must be a current member of NACNS during the 2019 annual conference. Funds can be applied toward NACNS membership if conference registration fees offer a combined fee structure.
- Applicant has not been a recipient in the previous year of the NACNS scholarship funds.
- Applicant is not a recipient of any other monetary awards or scholarship funds through the MN NACNS Affiliate for education/conference attendance in the same year for which funds will be applied.
- Recipient must be willing to submit a summary about their conference experience or conference topic for publication in the affiliate newsletter.

The scholarship will be awarded based on responses received to the following 2 questions.

1. Describe aspirations or actual contribution to the profession of nursing in the Clinical Nurse Specialist role.
2. Outline how you would plan to utilize your attendance at the NACNS annual conference to enhance your professional development and engagement in the MN NACNS affiliate.

Your response to these 2 questions combined should be no more than 500 words in length.

Applications will be reviewed by the Chapter President, President Elect, and the ex officio President. In future years we will ask the previous year’s award winner to also serve as a reviewer.

Applications may be e-mailed to Kris Negley at Kris3719@aol.com **by September 12, 2018.**
Mary Fran Tracy Award of Excellence

Nominate a Colleague for the MN Affiliate CNS of the Year Award!

A co-founder and charter president of the Minnesota Affiliate of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (MN NACNS), Dr. Tracy has worked tirelessly throughout her distinguished career to advocate for advancing the role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist. From her clinical practice as a Critical Care CNS at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, through work on the Minnesota Board of Nursing CNS Certification Waiver Panel, and serving as president of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, Dr. Tracy has earned a well-deserved reputation as a leader and role model in all spheres of the CNS role. Additional information about this award, including nomination criteria and how YOU can submit a nomination for a deserving CNS, is available on the MN NACNS website.

Criteria for Mary Fran Tracy Award

CNS Nominee will have the following:

1. Current membership in MN NACNS (information may be obtained through asking nominee or emailing MN NACNS)
2. Licensed by the State Board of Nursing to practice in the State of Minnesota as a CNS.
3. Have a minimum of three years of experience as a CNS.

Nominator will provide the following:

1. Two letters of recommendation (letters may be from nominator, colleague, nursing faculty member, nursing staff, and/or graduate nursing student.) Specific criteria for letters of recommendation explained below.
2. Current Curriculum vitae of the nominee

Letters of recommendation:

Please include examples of how the nominee demonstrates excellence in education or practice. Consider the following criteria in describing the nominee:

* Commitment to advancing expertise in their clinical specialty.
* Demonstrating leadership in promoting evidence-based practice.
* Demonstrating quality patient outcomes as a result of his/her practice.
* Supporting nurses in the delivery of patient care and the advancement of nursing practice.
* Promoting change or collaboration at the system level to improve or impact patient care.

Award will be presented to the recipient at the Annual MN NACNS conference on October 5, 2018.

Letters of recommendation and CV must be emailed to Kris3719@aol.com by September 12, 2018.
NACNS Conference Experience

I was recently given the gracious opportunity to attend the NACNS conference in Austin, TX. I was fully sponsored by our Minnesota chapter. Without that sponsorship, my attendance would not have been possible. I have never been to a national conference before, so this was an exhilarating experience for me. Imagine a wide-eyed, green, CNS student staring magically into the huge ballroom filled with accomplished clinical nurse specialists. I hear the winner of the CNS of the year. Kathleen Vollman, a woman who is a CEO of two different companies as well as an inventor. This gave me the vision of what one can accomplish as a CNS. While attending educational sessions, I became “star struck” as I looked down at my program for the name of the speaker, Janet Fulton, the main editor of my CNS textbook. I ended my experience with a tear-jerking presentation from a Urology CNS, Jeffrey Albaugh. His practice was truly holistic. He does everything from medically diagnose pathophysiological reasons for erectile dysfunction to treating psychological sources for he had become a certified sex therapist himself. Overall, I left the conference impressed, inspired, and motivated to start my journey as a clinical nurse specialist. By Brandy Kozitza CNS student

MN NACNS President, continued

needs of our members are a few initiatives supporting the theme and goal of unity.

The opportunity to collaborate with the MN NACNS has allowed me to expand my network, experience personal and professional growth and learning from a team of APRN nursing experts, increase my knowledge and connection to the NACNS and has expanded my world view of nursing. It has been an opportunity to get outside of myself and my personal practice and experience a higher level of unity! The goal of unity across the state is lofty and achievement of this goal may seem to some to be unrealistic, I think and know it is completely possible!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Pam

Updates from NACNS

2019 Call for Abstracts is now open. Theme of the conference is: A Catalyst for Practice Change: The CNS.

July 16-17, 2018: Join clinical nurse specialists from around the country at the 5th Annual CNS Educator’s Forum and the 17th Annual CNS Summit in the Washington, D.C., area.


The National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS) Family Across the Lifespan (FALS) Crosswalk task force recommends allowing FALS clinical nurse specialists to acquire certification for state licensure by passing both the clinical nurse specialist (CNS) adult/gerontology and pediatric certification examinations. The NACNS Board of Directors and the task force note the recommendation is a proxy for a FALS population-specific CNS certification examination until such time that a valid and reliable FALS test and/or certification process is established. Read more.
The theme of the 2018 MNNACNS Conference is The CNS as a Catalyst for Change: Leading through Unity. The goal of the conference will be to impart wisdom for those experiencing significant change and/or those leading change as well as promoting unity among CNSs. The conference planning committee is seeking podium presentations that highlight the CNS role in change and poster presentations to share the work of the Minnesota NACNS group with each other.

The conference will be held at the Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn Hotel in Burnsville, MN on October 5, 2018. A preconference will occur the evening of October 4, 2018.

**Podium Speakers:** Please submit a proposal to speak about a project you have completed or a topic of interest to you. The Conference planning committee is looking for speakers who will fit the theme of this year’s conference and will help attain the goal of the conference which is to impart wisdom for those enduring significant change and/or those leading change as well as promoting unity among CNSs. Proposals will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Aligns with the theme/goals of the conference
  - Possible topics may include the use of social media, MN resources for Clinical Nurse Specialists, pharmacology
- Includes clear learning objectives and proposed duration of presentation
- Articulates methods, outcomes, and evaluation of practice change if describing a project

Acceptance will also depend on availability of time on the agenda. If time limitations prevent acceptance of your proposal for oral presentation, please indicate if you would be interested in offering your material as a poster presentation. Additional information will follow if you are selected as a speaker.

**Podium Speaker Deadline:** June 30th, 2018
Word limit: 300 words
Send speaker proposal to: Derby. Kelly@mayo.edu

**Posters:** The purpose of the poster display and discussion is to share the work of the Minnesota NACNS group with each other. Please submit an abstract for your poster and every effort will be made to accommodate as many posters as possible. Because we accept new posters and posters that have been previously presented locally or nationally there will not be strict limits on size or subject matter. Additional information will follow if your poster is accepted.

**Poster Deadline:** September 10, 2018
Send poster proposal to: atong1975@gmail.com

Please share this call for abstracts with your colleagues who may be
SAVE THE DATE:

OCTOBER 5, 2018

MN NACNS Annual Fall Conference

Pre-Conference the evening of October 4th

Location:
Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn Hotel
14201 Nicollet Avenue
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337

MN NACNS Website, cont.

We are working on making our webpage to be the go to page for CNS job postings and to look up a CNS if you want collaborate with or just want to talk to about the new standards, measures, practices just about anything.

- New CNS job posting: If you go to the MN NACNS webpage and hover the mouse over the ‘News’ you will see ‘Job Posting’ See the screen shot below. There is a current posting for an Orthopedic Clinical Nurse Specialist at United Hospital, St. Paul.
  - If you know of any Clinical Nurse Specialist job posting at your organization please forward them to me and I will be happy to post it to the MN NACNS webpage.
  - We are also working on creating a MN CNS contact list that our members can use to connect with another CNS in MN. So if you have a question related to chemotherapy you can go to our webpage and look up all the Oncology CNSs with their contact information. This is still in progress and has not been posted but will be there soon.
- If you have any ideas on how to make our webpage more resourceful for our members please feel free to e-mail me at srehmat1@fairview.org

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