

January 23, 2007

Dear WIN member,

Happy New Year to all and we hope that your new semester has gotten off to a great start!

We would like to remind all students on the ways that WIN is currently exploring new ways in which nursing students, at all levels of education, can benefit from WIN membership. Over the past year we have developed a "Student's Corner" on the WIN website that addresses issues that student nurse researchers may find of interest. The direct link for the website is:

<http://www.ohsu.edu/son/win/scorner.shtml> . These topics include: selecting and applying to the right PhD program and funding your education and your dissertation. These articles were submitted by members all over the region. We thank all of the authors who so generously contributed their time and work to make this section a helpful resource. Additionally, we would like to continue building this resource and ask that if you or any students in your institution are interested in submitting articles for this section, please contact us.

We have continued to promote student participation in our annual conference. Last year over 70 students attended our Student Breakfast in Albuquerque. This event gives students from different schools the opportunity to network with other students in a more social environment. We will be continuing this event and hope that you will encourage your students to attend this event in Portland at our 50th anniversary conference.

At our conferences we also have a student poster section. As you might have noticed, the online abstract submission form asks if the work was completed when the author was a student. All of those posters are eligible for consideration as the WIN Best Student Poster. In 2006, the WIN Best Student Poster was awarded to Martina Gallagher and the following won runner-up honors: Colleen Casey, Darcy Copeland and Jeff Ramirez. All of these individuals thus became eligible to be WIN representatives at the poster display for the recent State of the Science national conference sponsored by the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS) in Washington, DC.

Finally, we would like to tell you about a new initiative that WIN is launching. In an effort to recognize and celebrate our undergraduate students we would like to ask that all academic institutions submit their undergraduate nursing honors theses to the WIN student poster session in Portland, 2007. This is an effort to encourage undergraduate students to pursue advanced research training and to become future leaders in nursing science. These posters will be acknowledged as the work of "WIN Rising Stars" in the poster session, the student breakfast and in the opening session. If you or any students you work with are interested in participating in this program, please fill out the attached application (also on website) and return it to Allison Webel at Allison.webel@ucsf.edu by February 15, 2007.

If you or any students you work with would like to become more involved with WIN or if you/they have any suggestions about how WIN can better serve its student members, please feel free to contact Allison Webel at Allison.webel@ucsf.edu.

We thank you for your continued involvement in WIN and look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Allison Webel RN, BSN, BA
Student Ex-Officio Member
Board of Directors
Western Institute of Nursing

Ginny Pepper, RN, PhD, FAAN
President
Board of Directors
Western Institute of Nursing