President-Elect's Message

Grooming the SUNA Leaders of Tomorrow

Susan Lipsy

I had the opportunity to attend the Chapter Leadership Workshop at the SUNA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. There was such a high energy level as this inspired group of seasoned, new, and potential SUNA leaders came together to discuss how to recharge an old chapter or start a new one. Despite this group’s enthusiasm, a common theme became apparent as I listened, which was: “There doesn’t seem to be anyone willing to take over the chapter leadership right now.”

Grooming new leaders is an essential part of chapter maintenance. You cannot grow as a chapter if you do not continuously bring in new blood and new ideas. In fact, without active leadership development, chapter crises can often occur. The current leaders become increasingly frustrated and lose confidence in each other. Chapter leaders may resign, and this will cause members to lose interest and momentum. This vicious cycle could eventually lead to chapter disorganization and possible inactivation.

Looking for new SUNA chapter leaders who want to volunteer in an age where volunteering seems to be extinct can be challenging. Perhaps we are looking too hard or ignoring the hints from members who quietly express a desire to become potential new leaders. By opening up our eyes and minds, we may actually recognize the signs of effective leaders, such as possessing positive attitudes, showing openmindedness, creating visions that engage others, demonstrating management and organizational skills, displaying commitment to the chapter, acting as a part of the team, maintaining high energy, and showing integrity. Within each of our chapters there are individual members who possess these characteristics, but unfortunately may never be recognized for them.

Each SUNA leader has the potential to groom and mentor new leaders. Do not expect members to step up and ask to take a leadership role. Most will not volunteer. You must invite new leaders to get involved. Look at the strengths of individual members and allow them to use those strengths for the chapter. Talk openly with new leaders and let them know that you feel they would make a fantastic chapter leader. Personally invite a potential leader to run for a chapter office. Clearly define all the expectations and duties of the position. Once they have accepted, work with them, providing training and offering continuous support, evaluation, and encouragement.

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Karen Wall, RN, CURN, is in the spotlight for this issue of the Uro-Gram. Karen has been active in SUNA’s Research Triangle Chapter for many years. She is the chapter past president, past secretary, and currently acts as a board member. She actively participates in planning for local urology conferences and assists in the creation of meeting brochures. She has attended multiple national SUNA conferences and received her CBUNA certification this year.

Karen has acted as preceptor, charge nurse, staff educator, and has participated in research. She also has worked in the operating room and has been performing urodynamic studies for 25 years! She performs cystometrograms and biofeedback on men, women, and pediatric patients. Currently, she is the charge nurse for the Urophysiology Lab at the University of North Carolina.

On a personal note, Karen has two lovely daughters, both of whom are married. She also has a beautiful granddaughter who affectionately refers to her as “Gunna.” Not only is Karen a caring person to her peers and her patients, but she is also a four-legged crusader who adopts cats and dogs in need.

Once again I would like to extend my appreciation to Karen on behalf of SUNA for all that she does. Congratulations, Karen!

Lee Ann Boyd, MSN, ARNP, CUNP
Southeast Regional Director

President-Elect’s Message
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Each chapter must establish a realistic rotation system for officers to avoid leadership burnout. Your chapter bylaws should state the terms of office for leaders and when elections need to be held. I urge you to follow these bylaws. Nominations for officers should be made based on members’ attributes and how they will benefit the chapter. Nominating colleagues or friends will certainly fill positions, but may not be the best for the chapter in the long run.

Look for the leadership potential in everyone, and embrace new leaders. New leadership will minimize leadership burnout and energize chapter members. Grooming the future SUNA leaders of tomorrow is an essential component to maintain thriving and successful chapters in the years to come.

Susan Lipsy, APRN-BC, CUNP
SUNA President-Elect

Suggested Reading
More than 500 urologic health care professionals traveled to historic Philadelphia, PA, for SUNA’s 39th Annual Conference, October 3-6, 2008. Education sessions covered such topics as continence, urodynamics, prostate cancer, cysto room techniques, patient care, pediatrics, and professional development. In addition, participants networked with colleagues, earned continuing nursing education (CNE) credits, and met with vendors in the exhibit hall.

“One of the highlights of the conference is the networking available to attendees, and this year provided so many opportunities for everyone,” said newly inducted SUNA President Mary Anne Wasner, RN, CURN. “Many attendees told me how revitalized and empowered they felt, ready to return home with new ideas and knowledge to improve their practices.”

On Saturday, October 4, Balaz Imre Bodai, MD, opened the conference with the session, The Breast Cancer Research Stamp’s Global Journey. In 1998, the United States launched the Breast Cancer Research Stamps (BCRS) program which to date has raised nearly $60 million and sold 900 million stamps. Bodai shared the BCRS program’s global journey and described the process of introducing a bill to Congress and the role of lobbyists. Later that night, during the Philadelphia-themed SUNA Party, the SUNA Foundation held a Silent Auction and raised $4,270 to support urologic nursing grants and scholarships.

On Sunday, October 5, SUNA sponsored an “Ask the Experts” panel discussion on such topics as Interstim, renal stones, pediatric urology, and cryoablation of the prostate. Attendees heard from four experts: Robert Stein, MD, Susan Lipsy, APRN-BC, CUNP, Helen Rittenmeyer, BSN, RN, and Valre Welch, MSN, RN, CPNP. The discussion was followed by a question and answer period.

Awards

Each year SUNA honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to urologic nursing. The awards were presented during the Awards Luncheon on Sunday, October 5, and recipients included:

President’s Trophies

- For Outstanding Contributions to the Specialty of Urologic Nursing
  Susanne Qualllich, ANP, BC, NP-C, CUNP
- For Outstanding Contributions to SUNA
  Melissa Morrison, RN, CURN

Outstanding Contributions in Continence Care Award

Awarded by National Association For Continence (NAFC) and Sponsored by Pfizer Global Pharmaceuticals
Shanna Atnip, MSN, RN, WHNP
Local SUNA chapters represent our membership and provide a venue for national recognition of each chapter as well as individual member’s achievements at all levels of participation in our organization. The following chapters were recognized at the 2008 SUNA Business Meeting and Awards Luncheon at the 39th Annual Conference held in Philadelphia.

Exceptional New Chapter: North Louisiana Chapter

The chapter was formed in February 2007 by Malinda Whitfield who coordinated the chapter’s first annual conference in fall 2007. Their conference was a success with 20 attendees and 7.0 contact hours provided.

Most Improved Chapter: Rocky Mountain Chapter

This chapter was formed in 1977 but has seen lots of changes over the past year under the direction of chapter President Carolyn North. Chapter membership has grown substantially, and chapter board members are committed to offering consistent and excellent educational dinner programs for members as well as an Annual Urology Collage. The chapter recently joined forces with a large private practice group in the Denver area to strengthen their commitment to education and community involvement by supporting health fairs and various patient support groups.

Little Chapter with a Big Heart: Yakima Chapter

This little chapter is 29 members strong. It takes a lot of heart to reach out to patients in a creative way. This past year the chapter hosted a Polka Party for their prostate cancer survivor patients during Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Dancing the polka is not only great for the heart, everyone who attended had a fun time.

Exceptional Contribution to SUNA: Syracuse Chapter

This chapter not only has its own chapter meetings and community activities throughout the year, but also reached out to collaborate with other organizations to broaden educational and networking opportunities for SUNA members. It is a huge endeavor to step outside your own chapter and collaborate with others for the common goal of education and improvement of urologic health care. These shared programs strengthen our organization as a whole. In September 2007 under the leadership of Amy LoPresti, this chapter planned a 6-hour SUNA educational program along with the Central New York SUNA Chapter during the American Urological Association Northeastern Section Annual Meeting in Rochester, NY.

Best Communication Award: Great Lakes Chapter

Communication is the key to keeping members informed at every level of SUNA. And when you have over 250 members in a very active chapter, you have to have great communication! This chapter comprises many diverse and talented members under the leadership of Todd Morningstar. The chapter is very active with an up-to-date Web site that keeps members informed of various programs. One of the chapter’s goals is to “unite urologic health professionals for the purpose of maintaining a chapter dedicated to the promotion of the highest professional standards for care of the urological patient.”

Exceptional Community Activity: Upper Midwest Chapter

Under the leadership of Shirley Peter this chapter has had many achievements over the past years and just keeps getting better and better. Not only have they donated to SUNA to support various scholarship and lectureship awards as well as the Foundation, they are also very active in their own communities. Several chapter members participated in a silent auction and bake sale to raise thousands of dollars to help needy families celebrate Christmas. From toy drives and bake sales to monthly prostate cancer support group meetings and screenings, chapter member are representing SUNA well!

Exceptional Educational Programs: Mississippi Valley Chapter

This chapter held many quality urologic educational programs throughout the past year with many contact hours offered to SUNA members. Congratulations to Mississippi Valley, which is led by Jane Ackerman.

2008 Chapter of the Year: Chicago Metro Chapter

This large chapter, which is led by chapter President Ginger Lewis, has it all going on! They host monthly educational activities on a variety of urologic nursing topics with contact hours. They even held a spring conference with 6.0 contact hours awarded to over 100 registered attendees. The chapter had tremendous member participation in community activities from bladder health initiatives to cell phone collections to family shelter services. This chapter offers an annual certification review course and reports that 36 members are CBUNA certified. They offer members a state-of-the-art Web site filled with chapter news and events, chapter contact information, resources, as well as a chapter president newsletter. The Chicago Metro Chapter’s achievements are numerous and far reaching.

Congratulations to all award winning SUNA chapters!

Debbie Hensley, BSN, RN
National Secretary
What an honor and yet daunting challenge it is to pick two individuals in our dynamic organization to receive the President’s Trophies. One trophy is awarded to an individual for Outstanding Contributions to SUNA and the other for Outstanding Contributions to Urologic Nursing.

Melissa Morrison was the recipient of the President’s Trophy for Outstanding Contributions to SUNA. She started her nursing career in organ transplantation. In 1999 she began her career in urologic nursing and has been a SUNA member since 2000. She is a devoted mother of two and grandmother of one very special little girl and has made her mark in urologic nursing. She has had the opportunity to develop, implement, and run two continence centers.

Several years ago Derek Griffiths authored a document recommending minimal training standards for those beginning in urodynamics, which was adopted by the International Continence Society (ICS) as formal recommendations for training. Saundra Seidel, Betsy Omeis, Derek, and I tried to compile a course for SUNA that met these recommendations of the ICS, but we kept hitting one road block: the requirement for a live, real time demonstration. However, this did not stop Melissa. At the time as the Urodynamics SIG Leader and now as SUNA’s first Board-appointed Urodynamics Course Director, Melissa has spent countless hours making sure this would not be a problem and she would go on to ensure that SUNA presents high quality urodynamics training that meets the ICS recommendations. We would not have succeeded in meeting these recommendations without her.

Susanne Quallich was the recipient of the President’s Trophy for Outstanding Contributions to Urologic Nursing. Stellar seems to describe the recipient of this award. Having had the privilege of reviewing Susanne’s CV, I became even more impressed with this incredibly accomplished professional! She is definitely one of those people I sit back and watch in awe and wonder how she accomplishes all that she does.

Susanne is a urology nurse practitioner and adjunct faculty at a local school of nursing. She is a clinical preceptor for several programs, book reviewer for several journals, and has countless publications and presentations to her credit. In her state she was recognized as Nurse Practitioner of the Year. She also has won the Urologic Nursing Literary Excellence Award for first-time authors. As a member of the Urologic Nursing Journal Editorial Board, she is recognized by Editor Jane Hawks as someone who “always delivers. She is energetic with incredible character and integrity. She is a leader and a doer!” Susanne has served her local SUNA chapter as president for many years, and she has served on the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) at the executive level and as a content expert in sexual dysfunction and infertility.

Susanne was also the first nurse practitioner elected to membership in the Society for Male Reproduction in Urology and the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction. She is a section editor for the eighth edition of Medical Surgical Nursing: Clinical Management for Positive Outcomes. Somehow in the midst all these initiatives and accomplishments, she juggles a husband, three children, and a new puppy!

It was an honor to work with my committee to chose two such deserving individuals to receive the 2008 President’s Trophies.

Tamara Dickinson, RN, CURN, CCCN, BCIA-PMDB
SUNA Immediate Past President
During the Annual Conference in Philadelphia, Theresa Lesher, BSN, RN, was awarded the Suszette McKay Memorial Excellence in Urologic Nursing Award. As the Continence Nurse Specialist for the UroHealth Clinic at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, Theresa is currently the only person in the hospital who performs biofeedback and electric stimulation treatment. To keep up with the demand, she frequently works overtime without pay. Theresa’s job includes more than just performing those tests. In order to schedule and perform urodynamic tests and biofeedback training, she needs to spend time reviewing the consults, scheduling patients after speaking to them or their caregiver to meet their specific medical needs, and providing patient education to patients, caregivers, and families.

Because her position falls under the direction of three separate clinics at the VA (Urology, Women’s Health, and PM&R), Theresa needs to take direction from three department chiefs. Each chief admires and respects Theresa both as a person and a health care provider. The new residents and medical students often look to her for interpretation of the testing.

Theresa, the health care advocate, is always available for patients, attempting to accommodate their upcoming visits with their individual needs. Most patients are complex with multiple medical issues. Many are quadriplegic or paraplegic. The time and patience needed to assist patients with their urinary issues and urodynamic testing in particular is enormous. Theresa always has a smile on her face, and that means a lot to the patients. It means she cares and will take whatever time is needed to help them. She is critical to the PM&R department, which is attested to by her recent promotion to Assistant Nurse Manager, Spinal Cord Injury/Disease Outpatient Clinic, at the newly built Spinal Cord Injury Center in Minneapolis.

Theresa shares her knowledge with the VA nursing staff by conducting inservices, classes, and one-on-one sessions. She maintains membership in multiple professional nursing organizations (SUNA, WOCN, AASCIN) to keep up on current practices and be able to translate that to patient care. She has been a continence preceptor to nursing students at the VA since 1993 and has written several continence patient education pamphlets for the medical center over the past 14 years.

Theresa is not only a strong patient advocate but a true asset to the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. She truly exemplifies the Suszette McKay Memorial Excellence in Urologic Nursing Award.

SUNA gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors for their contributions to the 2008 Annual Conference:

**American Urological Association**
- Arthur T. Evans Lectureship

**Astellas Pharma**
- Luncheon Symposium

**Astra Tech**
- Educational Grant

**Central Virginia Chapter**
- Patricia Putetti Memorial Lectureship

**Coloplast Corporation**
- New Members and First-Time Attendees Welcome and Orientation Breakfast

**Dale Medical Products, Inc**
- Exhibit Hall Grand Prize Drawing

**Galil Medical**
- Concurrent Session; The Ice Age Is Here

**Great Lakes Chapter**
- Vance Caselman Memorial Lectureship

**Gyros ACM**
- SUNA Search

**Indevus**
- Cyber Café

**Laborie Medical**
- Opening Keynote Address

**Liberty Medical**
- Closing Keynote Address

**Medtronic Urology**
- Sacral Nerve Stimulation SIG Meeting
- Concurrent Session: Sacral Nerve Stimulation

**Past Presidents of SUNA**
- Past Presidents Lectureship

**San Antonio Alamo Chapter**
- Ian Murchie Thompson Memorial Lectureship

**sanofi aventis**
- Attendee Tote Bags

**T-DOC**
- Hotel Key Cards
- Russell Church Memorial Lectureship

**Upper Midwest Chapter**
- Wyland F. Leadbetter Lectureship

**VIVUS**
- Chapter of the Year Award

**Western Region**
- Russell Church Memorial Lectureship
Annual Conference Photo Highlights
October 3-6, 2008 • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1. Outgoing President Tamara Dickinson (left) passes the gavel to 2008-2009 SUNA President Mary Anne Wasner.

2. Jan Jensen (right) accepts the 2008 Recruiter of the Year Award from SUNA President Tamara Dickinson.

3. The Chicago Metro Chapter in the North Central Region was recognized as the SUNA Chapter of the Year.

4. Benjamin Franklin made an appearance at the conference. He is pictured with SUNA President-Elect Susan Lipsy.

5. Conference attendees had an opportunity to bid on a variety of unique items during the SUNA Foundation’s Silent Auction.

6-7. Conference attendees met with industry representatives in the Exhibit Hall to learn about the latest technology, products, and services.

8. Urologic Nursing Editorial Board members Angela Joseph (left) and Jan Giroux greeted attendees at the Journal booth in the exhibit hall.

9. Members of the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) were available to answer questions about certification at the CBUNA booth in the exhibit hall. Pictured (from left) are Jan Giroux, Mary Linn, Patrick Scoles, and Nazy Zomorodian.
CBUNA Announces MacFarlane Award Winner

The Certification Board for Urologic Nurses (CBUNA) is proud to present the MacFarlane Award to the person attaining the highest score on the certification examination each year. The award for 2007 was given to Sharlene Brunet, CURN, during the 39th Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Sharlene graduated from the University of Windsor with a BSN in 1989 and has worked at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI. She started in an inpatient unit for trauma/general surgery and worked part-time as a staff nurse in the inpatient and outpatient settings participating in the practice committee, skin care committee, and diversity training.

In the Vitikutti Urology Institute her training was all “on the job.” She attended Journal Club meetings, dinner lectures, and conferences. She kept an open ear as this was a teaching hospital and over time (with much effort and many questions), she felt like she “got it.” One of her favorite procedures involved fluorourodynamics as “this was a puzzle just waiting to be solved.”

Her motivation for urological certification was validation of the experience and knowledge she had accumulated over the years. Sharlene believes that as experienced nurses we should be appreciated, highly valued, praised, and encouraged in educational endeavors. She is especially thankful for Dr. Riad Farah who funded her attendance at three SUNA conferences over the years as well as her exam review class and exam fee.

Sharlene believes that half the battle for certification was finally making the decision and commitment to take the exam. To prepare she ordered the study guide and CD and reviewed test questions. Over the summer months she simply picked out books from her long forgotten shelf of drug representative sponsored dinners, SUNA meetings, and those dust-collecting patient education and urology textbooks in the nurses’ station.

Sharlene’s advice: “At first, just take some time and review the types of prostatitis or make index cards summarizing erectile dysfunction medications, types of kidney stones, or stages of renal cancer. You’ll be surprised how much you know, but also how much you really want to expand this knowledge and understanding. Knowledge is power and confidence. Expect more from yourself. The benefits of certification are personal and professional. Personally, there was the pride of accomplishment and setting the example for my children by valuing education. They saw how hard I worked along with the scattered papers and sticky notes. Professionally, I believe the support from administration, supervisors, and staff doctors fosters an environment which will nurture the patient’s greatest resource and advocate: ‘his nurse’.”

Congratulations to Sharlene for a job accomplished and well done.

Mary M. Linn, ANP-BC, CURN
CBUNA Secretary

Lectureships Awards

The following individuals received lectureship awards for their presentations at SUNA’s 39th Annual Conference in Philadelphia.

Arthur T. Evans Lectureship
Sponsored by the American Urological Association
Melissa Morrison, RN, CURN
“Basic Urodynamics – How Do You Get Started?”

Russell Church Memorial Lectureship
Sponsored by T-DOC Company and the Western Region of SUNA
Mari Olsen, BSN, RN, CURN, and Suzanne Leckness, BSN, RN
“Nursing Care of the Postoperative Urology Patient”

Patricia Putetti Memorial Lectureship
Sponsored by the Central Virginia Chapter of SUNA
Paula Forest, MSN, OCN, GNP, CHPN, ARNP
“The 3 Ds: Depression, Dementia, and Delirium”

Ian Murchie Thompson Memorial Lectureship
Sponsored by the San Antonio/Alamo Chapter of SUNA
Laura Wood, MSN, RN, OCN
“Advanced Renal Cancer: Understanding the Disease and Maximizing Treatment”

Vance Caselman Lectureship
Sponsored by the Great Lakes Chapter of SUNA
Susan Lipsy, APRN-BC, CURN
“The Ice Age Is Here: Nursing Considerations in the Care of the Patient Undergoing Prostate Cryoblation”

Wyland Leadbetter Lectureship
Sponsored by the Upper Midwest Chapter of SUNA
Francie Bernier, PhD, RNC
“Understanding Transvaginal/Transrectal Electrical Stimulation”

Past Presidents’ Lectureship
Sponsored by the Past Presidents of SUNA
Kerry Ashcroft, MSN, CPNP
“Etiology, Management, and Treatment of Megaureter”

Share Your Conference Memories

This year is an exciting one for SUNA! The association will celebrate its 40th Annual Conference in Chicago. In celebration of our ruby anniversary, Gyrus ACMI is joining SUNA in highlighting this special time at our conference. I am requesting members to share any pictures, mementos, or anecdotes they may have that relate to the early conferences. I would love to talk with anyone who attended one of the association’s early conferences in 1968, 1969, or 1970. Please contact me so we can make SUNA’s 40th Annual Conference a special time of celebration. Thank you!

Nancy Mueller
SUNA Historian
aerie1022@sbcglobal.net • 210-316-1022
**SUNA FOUNDATION**

**News & Events**

The SUNA Foundation Board of Trustees welcomes Judy Smit, CURN, to the Board. Judy is from Michigan, and many know her from her previous SUNA Board activities. Judy will take the place of Dotti Calabrese on the Board, who has opted not to serve for another term. Dotti’s service to the SUNA Foundation is very much appreciated.

Victoria Peck, the recipient of the first SUNA Annual Conference Scholarship, shared her reaction with us:

“I feel very fortunate to have been the recipient of the 2008 SUNA Annual Conference Scholarship. This was my first-ever SUNA conference, and it was difficult to decide which sessions to attend. There were so many that were applicable to my everyday practice in a busy urology clinic. I was blown away by how big it was! The entire event was so well organized and professional that it is an excellent experience for any urology nurse. A real highlight was the Basic Coding session taught by Susanne Talebian.

The Saturday evening party gave me an opportunity to meet other nurses in a social atmosphere, although we ended up talking a lot about work. I met a colleague whose job is very similar to mine — but in another state. We are going to keep in touch through email and be available as a resource to each other.”

The 2009 Annual Symposium will provide the next opportunity for a SUNA scholarship recipient. The recipient of this scholarship is Donna Canada, ADN, RN, CURN, who is from Williamston, NC, and is employed by Eastern Urological Associates.

Complimentary registration for the Life Tech Urodynamics Workshop has been awarded to Norma Kirk-Vaden, RN. Norma will be attending a workshop in Houston, TX, in January. She is from Huntington, WV, and is employed by Cabell Huntington Hospital.

The SUNA Foundation has scholarships available for you, too! You can further your education with the Ron Brady Career Mobility Scholarship, get certified with the Jan Le Bouton Certification Scholarship, or attend the SUNA Annual Conference or SUNA Annual Symposium with a SUNA Scholarship. You can receive complimentary registration for a Life Tech Urodynamics Workshop or recognize a colleague by submitting his/her name and qualifications for the Suszette McKay Excellence in Urologic Nursing Award. If you are considering a research project, research grants are available.

Scholarship and grant criteria and applications are available on the SUNA Web site at www.suna.org. Be sure to visit the Web site and learn more about these opportunities. The Foundation is now offering two scholarships for SUNA’s 2009 Annual Conference as well as the 2010 Annual Symposium.

The Foundation’s Silent Auction, which was held during the 2008 Annual Conference in Philadelphia, was a success thanks to the hard work of Trustees Carolina Facciani, Jean Lewis, Nancy Mueller, and Ardeth Hale. SUNA Board Liaison Debbie Hensley and many volunteers, including Ed Mueller and Cheryl LeCroy, made it a fun occasion for all. SUNA office staff members Cheryl Underhill and Pat Davey were lifesavers on more than one occasion. Thank you to the auction’s many participants — donors and winners. The list of participants is available on the SUNA Web site (under the SUNA Foundation tab). Your support is genuinely appreciated, we cannot do it without YOU.

The Foundation will be generating more funds at the Annual Symposium by holding a raffle. There will be a number of exceptional prizes available, which means more chances to win! We hope to see you there.

**Ardeth Hale, CURN**

SUNA Foundation Chair & Trustee

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**New Resources Available**

**Educational Program on Sacral Neuromodulation**

SUNA has developed a continuing nursing education (CNE) program on sacral nerve stimulation entitled *Use of Sacral Neuromodulation in the Management of Voiding Dysfunction*. This PowerPoint presentation addresses the prevalence and treatment of urinary control problems and the use of sacral neuromodulation as a treatment option for patients with urinary incontinence and retention who fail or cannot tolerate conservative treatments. The CNE program offers 1.0 contact hours and is available for free download on the SUNA Web site (CNE processing fees apply). To access this program online, go to www.suna.org, click on the Education tab, and select Continuing Nursing Education Activities/Offerings.

**Clinical Practice Guideline on Acute Urinary Retention**

SUNA has developed a new clinical practice guideline to assist urologic nurses and health care providers when caring for patients experiencing acute urinary retention (AUR). The guideline outlines the risk factors, etiology, and treatment options for AUR as well as measures that can be taken to help prevent this problem. This new clinical practice guideline and additional guidelines developed by SUNA are available for free download on SUNA’s Web site (www.suna.org). To access the guidelines online, go to the Resources section of the SUNA Web site and click on the Clinical Practice Guidelines link.
After the busy holidays the Western chapters are working hard planning events and looking forward to spring. Many chapters are looking for members to give of themselves and share their ideas and knowledge with their local chapters. There is no better time to show support for SUNA than now. You won’t be disappointed.

Board members from the Northern California Chapter have been busy recovering from their time at the Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Linda Adams was on the planning committee for the conference, and Peggy Hayes is committed to helping make the Annual Symposium in March a success. With San Francisco as the Symposium site, the chapter has decided to curtail plans for the 2009 Annual Napa Urodynamics Day. Instead, President Jan Jensen looks forward to holding dinner meetings and half-day general urology events throughout the winter and spring. Northern California has agreed to host SUNA’s portion of the Western Section AUA meeting to be held in Las Vegas in October but needs help from all Western Region chapters in obtaining industry funding for this event. Jan welcomes all comments at kpuronurse@hotmail.com. The chapter’s Web page has been experiencing some technical difficulties but hopefully you will be able to access past, present, and future happenings at www.norcalsun.com.

The Puget Sound Chapter continues to work hard planning and providing members with educational seminars and events. Congratulations to Jean Dean on receiving the Western Regional Member of the Year Award. It is people like Jean with her dedication and hard work that make SUNA such an outstanding organization.

Edith Acey, president of the Utah Chapter, reports that the board held a meeting with members in November to plan educational offerings for the spring. This chapter welcomes members to participate in chapter meetings and functions. For more information, contact Edith at eacey@middletonuro.com.

The Arizona Chapter held an educational offering in the fall. President Linda Sabre would like to see more members attending these offerings. She would like to hear from local members with ideas and help in planning future offerings. This active chapter has a lot to offer its members. You can contact Linda at davlinsabre@msn.com.

Big Sky Chapter President Debbie Bailey has been busy co-coordinating The Big Sky Urology Conference for physicians and nurse practitioners to be held on February 12. Nursing CNE credits are being applied for. Debbie encourages chapter members to contact her (azeland@net0.net or dbailey@billingsclinic.org) with any ideas or suggestions for future events.

After holding a successful dinner meeting and the Cancer Survivors Party, Yakima Chapter members are planning to hold a meeting to organize some educational offerings for the upcoming year. President Cindie Neufeld welcomes any members to contact her at cneufeld@yua.com to become involved with this chapter and future activities.

Portland Chapter members Patti Bates and Renee Benoit participated in a health fair at St. Anthony’s Church on October 19. The parishioners showed much interest and appreciation for the information provided at the fair. What a great opportunity for SUNA members to provide the community with their knowledge and experience as urology health care nurses. Some chapter members were able to attend the Northwest Urological Society’s Annual Scientific Conference in downtown Portland on December 5-6. President Renee Benoit would love to hear from chapter members. She is anxious to get help from members in planning future events and to serve on the board. You can contact her at renee@theurologyclinic.com

North Central

President Beatrice Stuck reports that the Kansas City Chapter held their 34th seminar last fall. Forty nurses from hospital operating rooms, inpatient units, and outpatient offices, as well as several nursing instructors and retired urology nurses attended. The event was well supported by industry representatives. In celebration of Urology Nurses and Associates Week they held a dinner/lecture on overactive bladder. A prostate cancer screening was held in November in a rural hospital, and SUNA members were on hand to provide literature on general prostate health. Plans are in the works for a joint seminar in the spring with the local WOCN chapter. Good work, Kansas City! These are great examples of community service, nurse education, and collaboration with other organizations.

The Southeast Nebraska Chapter is busy, busy, busy, according to President Peggy Poe. They are in the process of converting to an email system for sending chapter announcements to members. They ask that all chapter members confirm their email addresses so they can continue to receive chapter information. In November the chapter held a dinner meeting on ureteral stents. They are planning a March meeting about tibial nerve stimulation. They will be collecting personal items for a local women’s shelter and are planning on presenting women’s/children’s bladder health information. Peggy also reports big changes in their chapter...
The new officers are: President-Elect Jessica Gross, Secretary Heather Hultquist, Program Chair Vee Nervig, and Treasurer Besty Spiegelman. Vee Nervig is chairing and already planning an all-day workshop for March 2010 and is getting someone to help set up a chapter Web site. Congratulations to Peggy and her innovative team! Todd Morningstar, president of the Great Lakes Chapter, shares that his chapter has recently held some very interesting meetings. The meetings, which covered Surgical Options for Stress Incontinence and Neuropathology of Interstitial Cystitis, were both well attended. The Cleveland area held their first meeting with over 30 attendees on New Options in The Treatment of Overactive Bladder. Sandy Ausmundson and her team deserve congratulations for organizing such a wonderful event, their first in a long period of time. There may be another meeting planned for February. Watch for details online at www.glsuna.com. Todd and his board held a holiday party and small meeting at the end of 2008 and are planning their next Inside Urology conference for March.

The Upper Midwest Chapter has been busy wrapping things up since the Annual Conference in Philadelphia where several members presented and received awards. President Theresa Kolle and her chapter would like to give special recognition to Theresa Lesher, Mari Olsen, Suzanne Leckness, and Diane Mann who all won individual awards at the conference. A special thank you to Mari for working on the Annual Conference planning committee and to Jean Lewis for her ongoing dedication to the SUNA Foundation. The Bladder Health and Prostate Health groups are continuing with their outreach into the communities by providing education to local health clubs and support groups. Chapter members recently assisted with the PACE RACE that was held in the Minneapolis area to raise money for prostate cancer research. The chapter is working on the Spring Conference that will be held in Rochester in April. A board meeting will be held in January. Further information can be obtained online at www.umcsuna.org.

President Gwen Hooper is pleased to report that the Kentucky Chapter has been busy since the Annual Conference in Philadelphia. She says chapter members in attendance received many inspirational ideas to help improve their chapter as well as their own practices. In October members participated in a community-wide prostate screening in Louisville at the office of Metropolitan Urology. Over 50 individuals were screened. This was the first screening held by the Metropolitan Urology Clinics. They hope to make this a community tradition. Kudos for their efforts and a successful and important community service.

Members in and around Lexington were treated to a dinner and educational lecture by Dr. John Tuttle on the latest treatments for overactive bladder. Allergan Pharmaceuticals and Pharmaceutical Representative Misti Dawn Cavery sponsored the event in November. The chapter is thankful to her for providing such a wonderful program. Plans are being made for upcoming activities, including a statewide meeting. The chapter hopes all SUNA members had a happy holiday season and would like to remind them that there is no $NA without U.

Amy Driscoll, BSN, CURN
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Northeast

The Northeast Region had a great turnout at the Annual Conference in Philadelphia. During our regional meeting, several members expressed interest in beginning new chapters and trying to identify those chapters closest for them to attend meetings. Several chapters held board elections, and the new officers assumed their roles in October and November. Valre Welch assumed her position as SUNA National Treasurer, and I had the privilege of assuming the position of Northeast Regional Director. Jeff Guse has agreed to remain as the Assistant Director. We both look forward to working with all of our members.

The Northeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Valley Chapters participated as host chapters for the Annual Conference. They did a great job! You may have noticed chapter member Jeff Guse sharing pretzel facts with conference attendees. He and Arlene Tully, chapter treasurer, were handing out bags of Snyder pretzels at the host table outside the exhibit hall. Jeff is temporarily taking on the position of chapter president until a replacement for resigning president, Debbie Barone, can be elected. Debbie has left the field of urology and is pursuing administrative work in hospice care. Best wishes, Debbie, in your new position!

Kristine Green is assuming the position of chapter president for the New England Chapter. Jane Berlew has resigned after 3 years of hard work and effort in developing that chapter. All of your hard work has been greatly appreciated, Jane! Maggie Hammond, CURN, and Christie Beaudoin, CURN, have offered their support and help as chapter secretary and treasurer. They hope to continue to build on the great work in the past and promote even more growth in the future. They would like to create a chapter Web site to facilitate communication and information sharing. They also plan on discussing future educational programs that are timely, fun, and interesting and want to make these as accessible as possible to their members.

The Baltimore Chapter recently held a dinner sponsored by Astellas. Myron Murdoch provided an engaging presentation on overactive bladder. Participants also were updated on valuable ideas/techniques that had been learned at the chapter leadership workshop at the Annual Conference. The chapter’s next meeting is planned for January, hopefully at the William P. Didusch Museum at AUA headquarters in Linthicum, MD, according to President Kristin Burns.

After a summer hiatus the Tidewater Chapter recently held elections. Denise Chamberland was elected president, Michele Schindler was elected president-elect, and Barbara Napier was elected secretary. Congratulations! Their first meeting for the fall was held at McCormick and Schmidt and was well attended. They are currently planning upcoming events.

Central New York Chapter President Marianne Borch shares how active her chapter has been. She attend-
ed the SUNA leadership workshop in Philadelphia, and five chapter members attended the Annual Conference. They organized a free prostate cancer screening in September and also wrote an article for Urologic Nursing as a group that hopefully will be published in early 2009. They held a planning meeting in December to brainstorm about future projects and events.

The Northern New Jersey Chapter has co-presidents in Joan Colella and Eileen Kochis-Wittmann this year. Eileen has two roles this year as co-president and secretary. Goals for the coming year include recruitment of new members, development of a patient teaching sheet on a urologic disease state, and possibly a poster presentation at SUNA’s 2009 Annual Conference.

The Upstate New York Chapter held two dinner meetings during the fall. The first, held in October, focused on stone disease, diagnosis, and management. In November, they enjoyed a presentation on stress urinary incontinence. Linda Abriel shared that members donated winter coats to a local shelter for distribution. The chapter is busy planning 2009 meetings and welcoming new members.

The Central Virginia Chapter recently welcomed two new board members. Diane Overberg is the new president, and Jessica Edge is the new president-elect. A September meeting was sponsored by Watson Pharma and featured a presentation on the new topical gel for overactive bladder. The November meeting was held in conjunction with the local oncology nurses with a discussion of chemotherapy medication for prostate cancer patients. Having both groups together gave a wider understanding of caring for these patients. Discussion is underway to have another meeting together and present the urology side of prostate cancer. Members continue to bring canned goods for donation to the local food bank.

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Southeast

Lee Ann Boyd

By the time you read this update, the holiday season will be coming to a close. I hope everyone enjoyed their time with family and friends. It is my hope for the New Year that all of us see a brighter and more hopeful year on the horizon. This past year has been challenging to all of us and our patients with the downturn of the economy.

Under the leadership of Myra Joseph, the San Antonio-Alamo Chapter had a very busy fall. On September 2 the chapter held a dinner meeting at Silo’s Restaurant with a presentation by Kristofer Wagner, MD, entitled State of the Art Techniques in Endourology. 25 members attended the meeting. The chapter participated in the “Spurs Nurses Night” at the AT&T Center on November 14 when the San Antonio Spurs played Houston. There was a special fee for all nurses who attended, and each received a free scrub top with the Spurs logo.

On December 4 the chapter enjoyed a dinner meeting sponsored by Coloplast and CCS Medical. Industry representatives presented new products in urology. The chapter accepted donations of canned foods for the San Antonio Food Bank to assist families in need during the holidays. The chapter also planned a Christmas project.

The chapter’s Annual Urologic Conference is planned for March 28. Further information on topics and contact hours will be available on the chapter’s Web site at alamo-suna.org.

Congratulations again to Southeast Regional Member of the Year and San Antonio-Alamo Chapter President, Myra Joseph!

The Greater Houston Chapter held a dinner meeting on Urinary Tract Infections in the Spinal Cord Injury Population on November 5 with 24 attendees. This presentation was sponsored by Uromed and Hollister. The chapter also held a food drive for the Houston Food Bank, a worthy cause in light of the extra demands placed on the food bank in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike and during winter holidays. For more information regarding upcoming chapter events, contact President Randee Regan at randeerreg@aol.com.

The Greater Dallas Fort Worth Chapter held its 5th Annual Urology Symposium in September. I was fortunate to have done a site visit during their annual meeting, where we had great participation, wonderful speakers, and a great venue! The chapter will be holding a meeting in January to plan activities for the upcoming year. The chapter is requesting nominations for anyone interested in running for an office. They will be selecting officers in the coming year. Anyone interested in helping with meetings or running for office should contact President Allison Beaver (214-645-8788, allison.beaver@utsouthwestern.edu).

The Florida Sunshine Chapter is busy preparing for CBUNA certification! Several members have started a study group that meets monthly. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to contact President Cindy McLean. The chapter also has started their fundraising campaign for the upcoming Relay for Life, which will be held the second week in March. The proceeds from the silent auction during the Christmas party in December went to the Relay for Life.

Plans are currently underway for the 8th Annual Urology Conference to be held in April. Watch for more information. Nominations will be accepted for new officers. If you are interested in information on chapter events or meetings or would like to run for office, contact Cindy McLean at cmclean@comcast.net.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Symposium, which will be held March 11-14 in San Francisco, CA. The Basic Urodynamics Training Course will be offered during the Symposium. Make plans to attend this informative conference. Hope to see you there!

Lee Ann Boyd, MSN, ARNP, CUNP
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**Advanced Practice**

The following is a very brief synopsis of discussions held with the SIG via the Internet.

- Information regarding pelvic floor rehabilitation and instruments were shared with a provider interested in offering that in her practice. The Hollister unit was deemed as “user friendly.”
- The proper codes for videourodynamic where the physician attends and interprets the study were identified.
- Physician/nurse practitioner (NP) practice agreements were shared with several NPs new to the work force. These individuals also were referred to the resources of Carolyn Buppert who has published books on the subject of NP contracts. Interestingly, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing has a collaborative practice agreement that can be obtained from their Web site.
- Long-term catheters were discussed, including leakage versus irrigation and the use of silver coated catheters.
- An individual working on her masters thesis project was referred to sources regarding benchmark data related to urinary tract infections.
- A case study was presented of a female with stress incontinence, atrophic vaginitis, and a colovaginal fistula with her urodynamic studies and cystoscopy results. Further data was presented, and then opinions were provided regarding management.

Join the discussions! If you are a mid level provider, simply email me to have your name added to the roster.

**Connie Whitesell, NP**  
SIG Leader  
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**Political Season Is Over ... Or Has It Just Begun?**

As I write this article SUNA's leadership transition just occurred, and election results have been finalized from local to national offices. Now is the time that we need to match our individual or organizational goals with the elected officials' platforms. These goals may be related to a local issue such as road improvement or a national concern such as health care reform.

The SUNA Legislative Committee was previously overseen by Penny Noto, who organized the committee and was instrumental in SUNA endorsing many position statements. The current volunteer committee representatives include: Penny Noto, Diana Baker, Francie Bernier, Joan Guilianelli, Jeff Guse, Mary Linn, Cindy McLean, Diane Smith, and Board Liaison Amy Driscoll.

Here is a glimpse of what we can expect on the national scene. According to their campaign Web site President-Elect Barack Obama and Vice President-Elect Joe Biden believe the United States must redesign its health system to reduce inefficiency and waste and improve health care quality, which will drive down costs for families and individuals. The Obama-Biden plan will improve efficiency and lower costs in the health care system by: (1) adopting state-of-the-art health information technology systems; (2) ensuring that patients receive and providers deliver the best possible care, including prevention and chronic disease management services; (3) reforming our market structure to increase competition; and (4) offering federal reinsurance to employers to help ensure that unexpected or catastrophic illnesses do not make health insurance unaffordable or out of reach for businesses and their employees.

Already SUNA is participating in recommendations with other nursing organizations for health care language changes. Currently, the nursing community is drafting a consensus document for health care reform. SUNA has specifically added wording for access to specialty care as well as chronic management as seen in incontinence or cancer care. It is very exciting that SUNA is playing a role in the policymaking arena, and we are excited to have a seat at the table. With SUNA as a member of the Nursing Organizations Alliance, I look forward to sharing information with members concerning how nursing is directly affecting policy during this time of health care reform initiatives. Please stay politically active!

**Saundra L. Seidel, APRN-BC, CUCNS**  
Legislative Committee Chair
In November 2002 I attended my first item writing session with the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) in Philadelphia. Nearly 6 years later in the same city, I moved on to become the President of this prestigious board. I never saw myself fitting into the board member role, but over the years I have grown to appreciate the challenge of the role and my association with the bright, ambitious, diverse membership of this board. It is an honor and privilege to follow in the footsteps of the esteemed individuals who preceded me.

Our mission, as stated in CBUNA policy, is to improve the quality of care provided to urology patients by promoting and acknowledging the highest standards of urologic nursing practice through the certification process. Over the past 6 years, I have seen talented and energetic board members tackle projects aimed at fulfilling this mission. These include continuous review and revision of policies, bylaws, and the three levels of certification exams and study guides.

In collaboration with the SUNA Board of Directors, we have increased our visibility and accessibility to the SUNA membership. A means of accomplishing this is an educational session created by our board members and presented every other year at the SUNA Annual Conference. This session provides an introduction to the certification process and an opportunity to interact with board members. Our Conflict of Interest policy prohibits our providing a certification review course, but we have cooperated with and encouraged SUNA in their endeavor to provide a review course for members. Professional Enhancement articles published in the Urologic Nursing journal are researched and written by board members. The articles are aimed at assisting members in preparing for certification. We have reached out to health care industry members and organizations, offering to review and accredit their educational programs and currently accredit the programs of three such organizations. These are a few of the board activities that support CBUNA's mission.

The biggest challenges we face for the future are certainly affected by available time and human and financial resources. We will continue to support the ongoing activities stated above. The membership has brought to our attention areas of interest that we are investigating. Urodynamic certification is a recurring theme as are national accreditation of CBUNA certification and computerized testing. We have met with C-NET, our testing agency, regarding computerized testing and will share the details and our conclusions in a future publication. The other issues are still under consideration.

To meet the ongoing and increasing needs of SUNA members, it has been necessary for us to increase fees for certification/recertification. Prior to making this decision, the Board investigated certification fees of various specialty nursing certification boards. Revised certification fees take effect January 1, 2009 and can be viewed in the Certification section of the SUNA Web site (www.suna.org).

As CBUNA President, I will focus on addressing the needs of certification candidates and current certified members and encourage others to become certified. Achieving certification demonstrates your dedication to the patients under your care and is accompanied by pride of accomplishment.

Phyllis A. Matthews, MS, ANP-BC, CUNP  
CBUNA President

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**Approver Unit News**

We have been talking about changes in the continuing nursing education (CNE) application for the last few months. Well, they are complete! You can find the new CNE application and Guidelines for CNE Approval Manual on the SUNA Web site (under the Resources tab).

The changes in the guidelines reflect changes made by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), SUNA’s accrediting body. You will see that the ANCC “applied for” and “approved” statements are different. These need to be exact on the publicity and certificate of completion in order for the Approver Unit to be in compliance with the new ANCC rules.

A new form is the Disclosure Declaration Memorandum. Some of you may have already used this form. Its purpose is to help keep everyone in compliance with the new ANCC guidelines by making sure participants know the speaker is sponsored by a particular vendor or if committee members are affiliated with a vendor, anything that could be perceived as a conflict of interest. Speakers and committee members with a vested interest need to be disclosed on this form, and it needs to be distributed to all program participants prior to the start of the program.

The application also has a new look. It is more streamlined and hopefully easier to use. The Documentation Form II now has areas that can be unprotected by you, the user, to add objectives with ease. The Vested Interest and Biographical Data forms remain the same. Please download these new forms today. They are required effective January 1, 2009.

As always, if you have a question or concern with the application, please contact Pat Davey at the SUNA National Office or myself.

Gina Powley, MSN, APRN-BC  
Approver Unit Chair
Call for Abstracts

Call for Abstracts for SUNA Search

Do you remember the most interesting urology patient you cared for this year? Have you created patient education for urology? Have you implemented an idea that improved patient care? We are looking for you!

SUNA Search is a session planned for SUNA’s 40th Annual Conference that will give members the opportunity to share new ideas and experiences with colleagues. All SUNA members are invited to submit an entry for this dynamic session. Authors of selected topics will present a brief (4-7 minute) presentation to conference attendees.

Abstracts can be submitted in any one of (but not limited to) the following categories:
- Patient education materials – written, audiovisual, or electronic patient education materials that you have developed for the care of a urology patient.
- Urologic pearls – innovative ideas pertaining to urologic methods, procedures, programs, or policies that improve patient care.
- An unusual urologic case report.
- Experience with a new urology product, procedure, or medication.

Criteria for Entry
✓ You must be a SUNA member to participate.
✓ Entries are limited to those created/authored by the SUNA member making the presentation.
✓ Presentation at the conference will be a PowerPoint presentation from the podium and will be limited to 4-7 minutes, depending on the number of entries selected for presentation.
✓ Presentations may not have been previously published in a professional journal.

✓ Entries may not have received corporate funding or grants.
✓ Presentations may not assume or appear to be representative of companies or their products, nor represent any financial interest on the part of the presenter.

Submission
To be considered for SUNA Search, please submit your abstract and CV (including address, telephone number, and email address) by June 12, 2009, to the SUNA National Office, East Holly Ave, Box 56, Pitman, NJ 08071-0056 or email to suna@ajj.com. If you are submitting a patient education entry, include a copy of your patient education material. Up to 10 SUNA Search entries will be selected for presentation. Each author will be notified of his/her acceptance status.

Abstract Submission Information
- Abstracts must be typed using New Times Roman.
- Abstract length is limited to fitting within the one-page abstract form.
- Abstract information must be received by the date specified in the call for abstracts.
- Email to suna@ajj.com. Faxed abstracts will not be accepted.
- A completed call for abstracts cover page must accompany each abstract.
- Final acceptance is conditional upon registration at the Annual Conference and meeting the format and criteria requirements for the abstracts.
- Contact the national office or visit the SUNA Web site (www.suna.org) for specific abstract information and material on writing abstracts and preparing posters.

Abstract structure: Each abstract should contain the following, in separately labeled paragraphs, in this order:
- Title and investigator(s).
- Background: a brief background of the study, significance of the study, theoretical or conceptual framework, if applicable.
- Purpose/aim/objective: two or three sentences stating that major purpose/aim or objective of the study.
- Brief review of salient literature.
- Methods: a brief description of the design of the study, collection of the data, description of the sample/subjects in the study, power/effect size, sample size, inclusion and exclusion criteria, ethical considerations.
- Measurement instruments: reliability and validity information, data collection procedures.
- Statistical analysis.
- Results: summary of the studying findings, including demographics, findings.
- Discussion/implications: discussion of findings, implications for urologic nursing practice.
- Limitations.
- Future research.
- A resume of the presenter no longer than one page must be submitted with each abstract.
- Authors of accepted abstracts are strongly encouraged to consider publication in Urologic Nursing.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 12, 2009.

Call for Abstracts for Research Scientific Session

Presenters are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations for the Research Scientific Session during SUNA’s 39th Annual Conference. Submission guidelines and accompanying forms are available on SUNA’s Web site at www.suna.org. All presenters will be awarded a 1 day complimentary registration to the Annual Conference.

Please read and follow the submission guidelines carefully. Submissions that do not follow the guidelines will not be reviewed. It is often helpful to have a colleague or mentor review an abstract or manuscript prior to submission.
UNA’s Annual Symposium: Incontinence and Pelvic Floor Disorders will be held March 11-14 at the Hyatt Regency in San Francisco, CA. The symposium committee has planned an exciting variety of topics and speakers, ranging from basic to advanced practice. Preconferences, general sessions, and concurrent sessions are available to meet your individual special interests. Back by popular demand is the 18-hour Basic Urodynamics certificate course, which includes a hands-on component with urodynamics equipment and a live demonstration shown by satellite.

Program Highlights

Four preconference workshops will be offered prior to the official start of the symposium, including Basic Urodynamics, A Multidisciplinary Treatment Approach for the Patient with Pelvic Pain of Musculoskeletal Origin, The Basics of Urinary Incontinence, and Marketing a Continence Program. The symposium will officially kick off Thursday evening, March 12, with a reception in the exhibit hall followed by a choice of networking sessions addressing current trends in the field.

On Friday, March 13, Tamara Dickinson, RN, CURN, CCCN, BCIA-PMDB, and Nancy J. Norton, BS, will start the day with a presentation on Continence Promotion: State of the Science? Where Are We Now? They will discuss the state of continence promotion and public awareness of urinary and fecal incontinence. Information and updates on World Continence Week 2009, the North American Continence Week Coalition, and the NIH State of the Science also will be provided.

The symposium program will continue through Saturday with a choice of concurrent sessions on a wide variety of topics, including:

- urodynamics
- biofeedback
- pessary use and management
- diseases of the vulva and vagina
- pediatric day and night wetting management
- diseases of the vulva and vagina
- physical therapy treatment of urinary and bowel dysfunction following prostatectomy
- pharmacologic treatments for sexual dysfunction as well as urologic and pelvic floor disorders
- sacral nerve stimulation for the treatment of refractory urinary retention
- managing the patient with stress incontinence and pelvic pain
- percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation

In addition, the program will include a research networking luncheon, general sessions on the urodynamics debate, evolution of the human female pelvis, and urodynamics through the life span, as well as time to visit the exhibit hall to learn about the latest technologies and products.

View the full meeting program and register online at www.suna.org. Register by January 23 to take advantage of reduced registration fees!