

Nevada State Board of

# NURSING NEWS

May 2010



## Governor appoints new LPN member

Pictured in the group above (L to R): Doreen Begley, Carrie McMurray, Tish Smyer, Kelly Espinoza, Belen Gabato, Sandra Halley, Rick Carrauthers

CNAs may be  
required to  
retrain

When should  
I answer  
“Yes” on my  
application?



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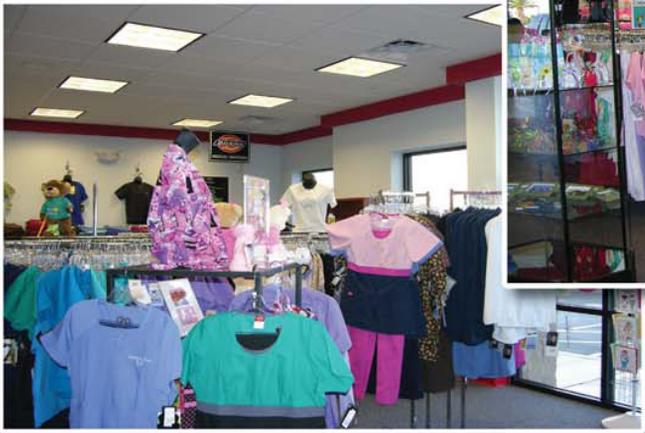
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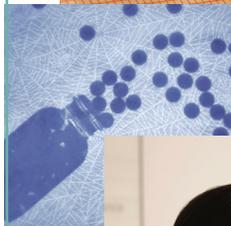
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## A message from the executive director

Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE

Progress is the movement toward a goal, an advance toward a higher or better stage, and to steadily improve. The nursing profession is making progress in a variety of areas, most importantly in responding to the patient safety movement. Innovations in nursing education, measurement of continued competence, licensure portability, and changing demographics characterize the progressive nature of our profession's growth.

Are you involved? Do you understand the issues facing the delivery of safe healthcare? Are you part of the movement to put patients at the center of the healthcare delivery system? Do you understand the important role nurses have in the future of healthcare?

If you can answer yes to these questions, you will be instrumental in how nurses will influence the future as patient advocates.

What do you consider as you arrive at your first nursing assignment of the day? Wherever you practice, the attitude that you bring to your daily interactions is a product of how you feel about what you do and how you feel about yourself as a person and as a nurse. I believe there has been progress in our profession related to communicating to others that nursing is an excellent profession for those seeking to challenge themselves and for those who aspire to influence and impact the future. Opportunities for growth, knowledge, and leadership abound in our profession. Making a difference for good is inherent in nursing.

The message I am hearing across the US and internationally is focused on nurses stepping forward and taking risks to secure a greater role as partners with other healthcare professionals. I attended the second World Health Professions' Conference on Regulation on February 18 & 19, 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland. The title of the conference was *'Shaping the Future' The Regulation of Health Professionals*. The conference was organized by the World Health Professional Alliance (WHPA) and the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT). The WHPA consists of four organizations: International Council of Nurses (ICN), World Dental Federation (FDI), International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), and the World Medical Association (WMA). The aim of the conference was "to shape the future of health professional regulation within the context of global health systems' redesign and evolving roles, always keeping in mind that public protection is the primary objective of health professional regulation." A nurse set the stage for the conference; nurses led panel discussions; nurses held break out workshops, and nurses provided the recap. They challenged the attendees to continue to work to trust one another and to put the patient at the center of healthcare.

Knowing that you are capable of impacting the future for improving the quality of healthcare, take the steps you've been contemplating, ask the questions that need to be answered, and be brave in forging the progress that needs to be made.

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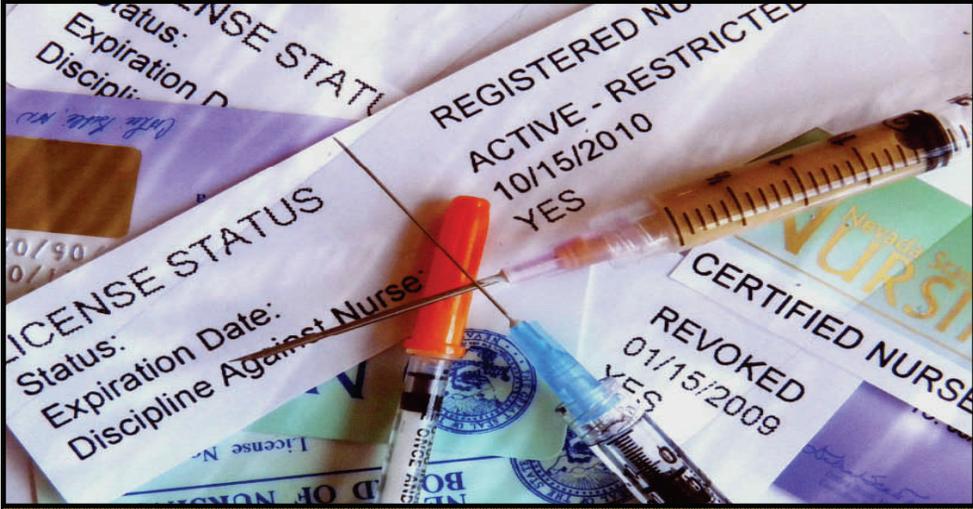
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I would like to begin this article by wishing each and every one of you a very Happy Nurses Week. I hope you are able to do something enjoyable and kind for yourself! Nurses are the hardest working group of professionals I know. You deserve and have earned a break! Try to do something you enjoy, and if you choose to do it with your colleagues; a lunch maybe... try not to talk about work for an hour!

Serving on the Nevada State Board of Nursing provides many learning opportunities. This past January, I attended an Institute of Regulatory Excellence (IRE) meeting in Phoenix. The IRE was created by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), and has been providing a Fellowship Program for interested nursing regulators for the past 4 years. I am very excited to be one of seven nurses to be accepted into the 2010 cohort.

During that meeting, there were two speakers that had powerful messages; and I would like to share some of the knowledge I gained at the meeting with you.

The first speaker to totally impress and totally overwhelm me with her knowledge and skill set was Rhea Seddon, a surgeon by training, who was selected as one of NASA's first women astronauts in 1978 and made three Space Shuttle flights. Because patient safety is at the heart of nursing regulation, she spoke to us about her work and writings as the co-author of the book "Crew Resource Management: The Flight Plan for Lasting Change in Patient Safety". She also spoke to us about going into outer space, showing us a flight

## Communication, Communication, Communication...

### Words from the president

Doreen Begley, MS, RN



simulation. Her bottom line message was communication, communication, communication. To totally have a successful flight mission, it was imperative that every member of the crew contributed their knowledge and expertise towards the common goal: a safe flight.

Meeting an astronaut was one of the things on my wish list that I wanted to accomplish in my lifetime. It was great to be able to not only hear her speak and simulate space flight, but I also had the pleasure of spending time with her in multiple social settings.

The second speaker was Tim Porter O'Grady, EdD, ScD, APRN, FAAN. He has been involved in health care for 40 years and has held roles from staff nurse to senior executive in a variety of health care settings, specializing in health futures, organizational innovation, conflict, change, and complex health service delivery models. Some of you may have heard him speak on other occasions, or you may have read one of his many books. He spoke to us about the importance of continued competence and some of the mind-set changes that will be needed to be able to achieve it. And interestingly, when he was discussing patient safety and medical errors, he commented that when doing

root cause analysis of medical errors, poor communication was a common finding.

I encourage all of you to pay attention to your communication skills, both when listening or speaking. It is important to listen to everyone on the health care team and if anyone expresses a concern, follow-up. If a mother says, "Yesterday my daughter's pill was blue. The one you are giving her today is pink". Stop what you are doing. There are many possible reasons for the pill to be a different color, but before you give it, find out why. The dose may have changed, it may be from a different drug manufacturer, or it may be the wrong pill. Use the communication clues that come to your attention to help improve patient safety and prevent medical errors. Every health care provider is part of the team, but that team also includes everyone who comes in contact with the patient—the patient's family, friends, and the patient himself. A true example of Crew Resource Management.

So as this month progresses, begin by celebrating Nurses Day, week and month! Enjoy your profession and your colleagues. And concentrate on improving communication to improve patient safety.

## WHY?

### A Nurse's Best Friend

By Sherri Twedt, RN, Nurse Investigator

I think my first word was why. My mother may have a different answer. My question to her would be why do you think that? I love questions. But more than that, I love answers. I always enjoyed the teacher or professor who would say, "There are no stupid questions." Which is great because I had and still have a million. Everyday at my job I hear myself say, "Why did they do that?" Then I look for the answer because I want to know why.

The worst thing a nurse can do, in my

opinion, is not ask questions. Bad things happen when nurses don't ask the questions. How fast, how slow, how high and how low? We as nurses look for the value, the range, the amount and the numbers that tell us what we need to do next. We love numbers. Why is that heart rate so low? Is that heart rate so fast that I need to do something? Is the patient tolerating that rate? Is that dose too high for that person's weight? Does the doctor know that patient is on coumadin? Why am I giving mucomyst to a patient going to the cath lab? Is that in my scope of practice? The demands of nurses are changing everyday. I see it by the questions I am asked by Nevada nurses. Nurses are patient advocates and patients rely on us to take care of them and keep them safe.

Nurses are really good at asking ques-

tions. My nursing school professors would say, "You don't have to have all the answers, you just have to know where to find them." We have schools, books, computers, nurse practice acts, policy & procedure, standards of care, etc. to help us find the answers. Very often, nurses get so caught up in the questions that they forget to look for the answers and find a solution. It's easy to find the problems, just look around. It's a little more challenging to find a solution.

It's amazing the things we can learn if we just ask. People are very willing to teach you what they know. Don't be afraid to ask the questions. But more importantly, don't be afraid to be part of the solution. Everybody benefits from solving the problem.

# Renewals for Certified Nursing Assistants: Why They May Have To Retrain

By Patty Towler and Patty Shutt



or the agency utilizes CNAs as Patient Care Attendants (PCA), the CNA may not use the hours worked as a PCA as meeting the employment required to renew her certificate. Also, if the CNA is employed to work in a physician's office and is working as a medical assistant, she may not use MA employment to meet the required employment hours. In this situation, if the CNA is actually working within the CNA scope of practice and there is a licensed nurse working in the physician's office who supervises the CNA, she may be able to use those hours for renewal. But, no nurse means that she is not working as a CNA. In the latter instance, the hours would not meet the employment requirement for renewal.

Nevada State Board of Nursing regulates Registered Nurses (RNs), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs), and Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs). Each individual applying for licensure/certification must meet certain criteria for the Board to renew the license or certificate. Some of the issues facing CNAs on renewal are different than what is required for RN's or LPNs.

When the CNA applies for renewal of her certificate, she must have worked 40 hours for compensation under the direction of a licensed nurse (either RN or LPN) as a CNA the scope of practice of a CNA within during the two years immediately preceding the date of the renewal of the certificate. CNAs report to and are supervised by a licensed nurse. For example, if the CNA is working for a home health agency and sees a problem with her client, she would call and report the problem to the licensed nurse who is responsible for managing the care of that client.

If a CNA certificate is required as a prerequisite for employment but the agency is non-medical and does not employ a nurse to supervise the CNAs

CNA is unable to work as a CNA. No certification, no employment as a CNA.

Some CNAs qualified for their initial certificate by using their nursing program's fundamentals in nursing course or a military training course. In this case, if the CNA submits her renewal application after her certificate expires, she will be required to re-train prior to her certificate being renewed. Remember that your certificate expires on your birthday, every other year.

Continuing education requirements for CNA renewal is completion of 24 hours of continuing education (CEs) within the previous 2 years. Some employers offer continuing education for their employees and some do not. Ultimately, it is the CNA's responsibility to complete the CE hours before she renews. If her employer does not offer CEs, the CNA will need to take the course on her own. The course must be related to the CNA scope of practice. CE hours related to another scope of practice, i.e. RN or LPN scope of practice, will not meet the CE requirement for a CNA's renewal.

When you renew your certificate, remember the Boy Scout and Girl Scout Motto, "Be Prepared". Make sure you are able to provide the nurse's name, license number and state of licensure on your application and that you have completed 24 hours of continuing education in the scope of practice of a CNA within the previous 2 years.

Remember! The Nevada State Board of Nursing does random audits on all our licensees and certificate holders. If you are audited, you will be required to provide the proof of what you have attested to on your renewal form—actual documentation of your employment hours working as a CNA under the direction of a licensed nurse and certificates of completion of the 24 hours of continuing education.

Take good care of your certificate, oftentimes it is the source of your livelihood.

## Remember! The Nevada State Board of Nursing does random audits on all our licensees and certificate holders.

The renewal application asks the CNA if she has worked 40 hours in the previous 24 months and, if so, to provide the name, license number and state where the supervising nurse is licensed. Many CNAs come into our offices and are not able to provide this information. Upon inquiry, we find that the CNA thinks that she is working as a CNA, but didn't work under the direction of licensed nurse. If this is the case, the CNA does not meet Nevada's renewal requirements and the certificate cannot be renewed. Certainly this can be devastating in numerous ways and the CNA may be required to re-train in order to be certified again.

When the CNA is told she is required to re-train, she must complete another state approved CNA program, complete a new application and submit fingerprints for a criminal history report. This process may take 3-4 months, all the while the

# Touro University DNP Graduates are Making a Difference in Practice

SUBMITTED BY ROBYN NELSON, DNSC, RN, DEAN, COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, TOURO UNIVERSITY NEVADA

Touro University Nevada in Henderson currently offers the only DNP program in a Nevada higher education institution; a 39 semester unit online program with two on-campus intensives scheduled twice during the two year program which provides a rich interchange among the doctoral students. Course work for the DNP includes biostatistics, epidemiology, health policy, practice-based research, informatics, genomics, organizational leadership, and ethics, as well as units in a practice area of choice and the practice-based dissertation. The dissertation process requires each graduate to focus on making a change in the health-care system using existing evidence from the literature. Four from the first cohort of DNP students admitted in July 2007 have completed the DNP program. These new doctorally-prepared nurses changed practice as a result of completing the DNP. Their practice-based dissertations included: developing a peer-review system that was integrated as part of a major medical center's nursing shared governance process with the purpose of increasing the autonomy of nursing staff and improving the perceived quality of care delivered as measured by the NDNQI scores; using evidence-based research and diffusion of innovation theory to support new legislation to expand the scope of practice for California NPs, which was signed by the Governor; developing a screening tool based on the literature to recognize the potential risk of sudden cardiac arrest in adolescent athletes—a pilot study using the tool had positive predictive value in identifying potentially life-threatening outcomes if untreated; and measuring the effectiveness of using a popular press online publication as a vehicle to deliver continuing education and evidence-based information critical to quality nursing practice of practicing nurses.

Research findings have linked patient morbidity and mortality to the educational level of the nurse. The DNP has been developed to offer the highest level of clinical practice attainable in nursing. There are several significant characteristics of the DNP as compared to the PhD:

- Less emphasis on theory and meta-theory development; the emphasis is on applying the theory to practice.
- A different focus on research methods—the focus will be on evaluation and use

of research results—evidenced-base practice—translational or practice-based research.

- Different dissertation requirements—perhaps a capstone project which produces an organization change—definitely intended to solve practice problems or inform practice directly.
- Completion of a clinical practice or resi-

dency requirement; 1000 practice hours post-baccalaureate degree minimum; immersion in an area of practice.

- Emphasis on scholarly practice, practice improvement, innovation and testing of interventions and care delivery models, evaluation of health care outcomes, and expertise to inform health care policy and

continued on page 14 >>



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# Rick Carrauthers,

*LPN member, Nevada State Board of Nursing*



Governor Gibbons recently appointed Rick Carrauthers, a licensed practical nurse, to the Nevada State Board of Nursing. He is currently employed by Vegas Valley Rehabilitation Hospital in Las Vegas as the Director of Wound Care, coordinating the provision of skincare related issues for both nurses and CNAs. He was previously employed by the Prison Health Services at the Infirmary of the Clark County Detention Center in Las Vegas. He came to Nevada in 2004 after gaining experience at St. John's Medical Center and Oklahoma State University Medical Center, in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Sparks Health Care Center in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

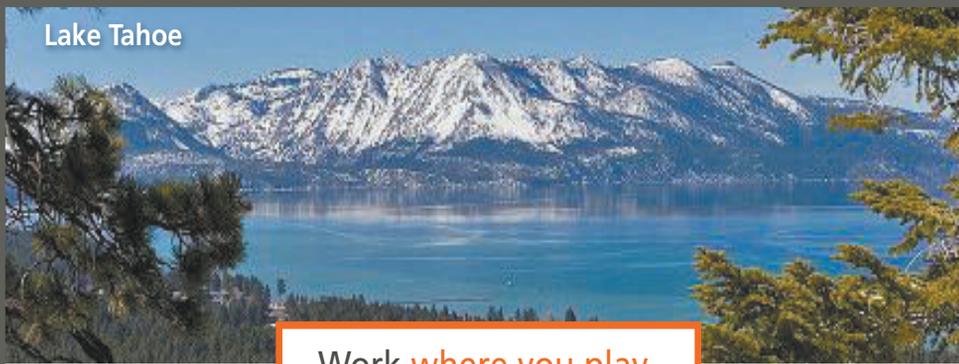
Carrauthers earned his diploma of practical nursing from Kiamichi Technical School in Poteau, Oklahoma where he was originally licensed in 1998. He attended Rogers State University in Claremore, Arkansas where he received his Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)- Paramedic certificate. From 1986 to 1992, he served in the United States Navy as a Petty Officer 2nd class. He is currently certified as a Wound Care Nurse by the Wound Care Educational Institute of Florida and, because of his expertise, serves on the Nevada Pressure Ulcer Prevention Committee. In his spare time, Rick loves scuba diving, maintaining his PADI certification.

He would like to share the following, "It's with much appreciation to many nurses that I have been chosen to serve on the Board of Nursing. Already in this short period of time, I have met so many great nurses that have taught me so much. I am looking forward to learning much, much more".

We appreciate Rick's willingness to serve the citizens of Nevada in this very important role, as the sole LPN representative of the Board. He has already shown an exceptional commitment to being well prepared for his service on the Board, asking thoughtful and insightful questions in his deliberations with the other members of the Board.

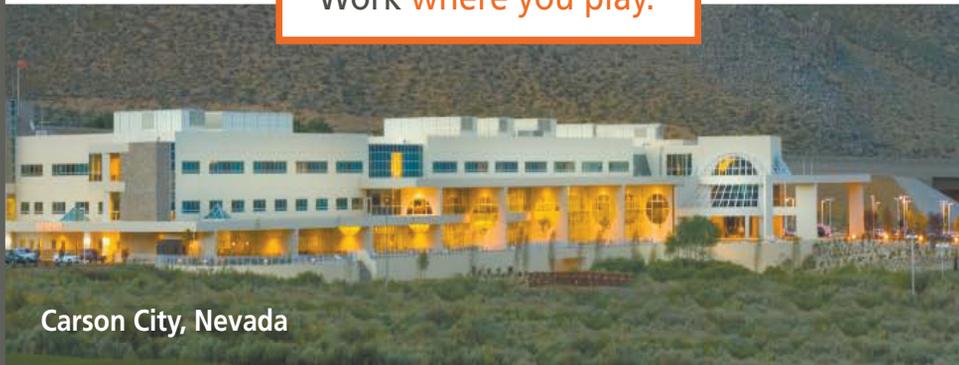
Carrauthers serves as one member of a seven member board, made up of four RNs, one LPN, one CNA, and one consumer member, whose mission is to protect Nevada's public from the practice of nursing by unqualified and unlicensed persons and from unprofessional conduct by persons licensed to practice nursing.

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## BOARD MEETINGS

A seven-member board appointed by the governor, the Nevada State Board of Nursing consists of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant and one consumer member. Its meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's web site and at community sites.

## BOARD MEETING DATES

**May 19-21, 2010 – Las Vegas**

**July 21-23, 2010 – Zephyr Cove**

**September 15-17, 2010 – Las Vegas**

**November 17-19, 2010 - Reno**

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Nevada State Board of Nursing is advised by and appoints members to five standing advisory committees. Committee meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's website and at community sites. If you are interested in applying for an appointment to fill an upcoming opening, please visit the Board's website or call the Reno office for an application.

## MEETINGS AND OPENINGS

The openings (listed in parentheses) will occur in the next six months. All meetings will be held via video-conference in Reno and Las Vegas.

Advanced Practice Advisory Committee (one)

June 1, 2010

August 24, 2010

November 9, 2010

CNA Advisory Committee (two)

April 22, 2010

July 15, 2010

October 21, 2010

Disability Advisory Committee (none)

April 23, 2010

Education Advisory Committee (none)

April 16, 2010

August 20, 2010

October 15, 2010

Nursing Practice Advisory Committee (none)

June 8, 2010

August 3, 2010

October 5, 2010

December 7, 2010

## COME TALK TO THE BOARD

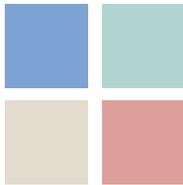
During each regularly scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing, Board members hold a Public Comment period for people to talk to them on nursing-related issues.

If you want to speak during the Public Comment period, just check the meeting agenda for the date and time it will be held. Usually, the Board president opens the first day of each meeting by inviting Public Comment. Time is divided equally among those who wish to speak.

For more detailed information regarding the Public Comment period, please call the Board.

## WE'LL COME TALK TO YOU

Board staff will come speak to your organization on a range of nursing-related topics, including delegation, the impaired nurse, licensure and discipline processes, and the Nurse Practice Act.



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# When Should I Answer, **Yes** On A Renewal Application And **What Happens** When I Do?

by Amy Clark, RN, BSN, Application Coordinator

The Nevada State Board of Nursing's mission is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare through effective nursing regulation. Among the many ways that this is accomplished is by screening applicants through fingerprinting, checking national databases for previous disciplinary action against a licensee or holder of a certificate in another jurisdiction, and by asking screening questions. Screening is conducted both on initial application and on all subsequent renewal applications. If you have a reportable issue based on one of the screening questions on your renewal application, here are some common questions asked of the Board and answers to help guide you through the process.

**If I already reported a conviction or other "yes" answer to the Board and have been cleared, do I have to answer, "yes" again on my renewal application?**

The answer to this is, maybe.

- If you reported a conviction, or other "yes" answer on an application that was previously cleared by the Board and there have been no new convictions, or changes in your situation (i.e. still in recovery with no relapses) AND you are renewing the same level of licensure/certification, then you do not need to answer "yes."
- If there has been a change since your last application, such as changes in limitations, a relapse, a new conviction, or disciplinary action by another board that have not previously been reported you must answer "yes."
- If you are applying for a different level of licensure/certification, for example a CNA applying for an RN, or an RN applying for an APN, then you need to answer "yes" to all screening questions that have ever applied to you even if previously reported to the Board.

**If I answer "yes," will my license/certificate be renewed?**

If your license/certificate is currently active, and the information you are reporting meets criteria established by the Board, you may be renewed for 6 months while an

investigation is conducted and information is gathered. If the "yes" answer is related to a criminal conviction, you will be required to submit fingerprints for a report. Remember, fingerprint reports can take some time to obtain so printing early in the process is recommended. Once your license/certificate has been renewed for 6 months, the renewal will not be extended while waiting for documents or reports that have been requested from you.

If your license/certificate is lapsed, or the issue being reported is considered a risk to the public, your license/certificate may not be renewed until all required documents have been provided and/or your application is brought before the Board for a final disposition.

**If I had action taken against my license in Nevada, do I need to report that on my renewal?**

Yes, you should and include a brief letter of explanation stating the action was by the Nevada Board. Staff cannot assume your intent in answering a question is related to action in this state due to the number of nurses who hold licenses in many states. If you do not provide a letter of explanation an investigation may be opened and your license may only be renewed for 6 months.

If you submit a letter of explanation with the application stating your "yes" answer was related to action in Nevada AND you are in compliance with the terms of that action, then your license could be fully renewed without an investigation.

**If I answer "yes" to one of the screening questions, what do I need to provide with my renewal application to speed the process along? If any of these items are not received with your application, it could delay the process.**

**Question 1** – Has your license in Nevada or any other state been denied, revoked, suspended, reprimanded, fined, surrendered, limited, restricted, or placed on probation (including a nondisciplinary program); or is any investigation, complaint or action pending?

**You must submit:**

- A detailed letter of explanation addressing

the circumstances leading to the action or pending action, if all requirements have been completed, AND

- Complete documents from the Board of Nursing or entity taking the action, AND
- A letter of reference from a current or past employer.

**Question 2** – Have you had a criminal conviction, including a misdemeanor or felony, or had a civil judgment rendered against you?

**You must submit:**

- A detailed letter of explanation addressing the circumstances leading to the arrest/conviction, or judgment, AND
- Complete court documents showing all charges, convictions and sentencing, to include that all court requirements have been completed or are still pending (i.e. fines, community service, ect...), AND
- A letter of reference from a current or past employer, AND
- Fingerprint reports from the Department of Public Safety and the FBI as directed by staff.

**Question 3** – Do you currently use chemical substances in any way which impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

**You must submit:**

- A detailed letter of explanation addressing the impairment and your limitations on your ability to practice the full scope of nursing, AND
- A letter from your treating practitioner addressing the diagnosis, the medical necessity of the medications, and any limitations to your practice, AND
- A letter of reference from a current or past employer, and a copy of your last evaluation.

**Question 4** – Are you currently in recovery for chemical dependency, chemical abuse or addiction?

**You must submit:**

- A letter of explanation describing your recovery experience, including length of continuous recovery, treatment, and current recovery activities (i.e. AA/NA, nurse support, counseling, etc...), AND
- A letter from your sponsor or knowledgeable individual documenting the length of your sobriety, AND
- Documentation of inpatient or outpatient treatment.

**Question 5** – Do you currently have a medical or psychiatric/mental health condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

**You must submit:**

- A letter explaining your condition,

continued on page 12 >>



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# UNR and UNLV Collaborate to Offer DNP Program

by Patsy L. Ruchala, DNSc, RN, Director, UNR Orvis School of Nursing and Carolyn Yucha, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean, UNLV School of Nursing

In October 2005, the membership of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing voted to endorse the AACN Position Statement on the Practice Doctorate in Nursing that called for moving the current level of education for advanced practice nursing to the doctoral level. Since that time, over 120 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs have been developed across the country with another 90 programs in the planning stages. In December 2009, the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents approved the first DNP program to be offered by Nevada's state universities. The University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) will implement a collaborative post-master's-level DNP program in Fall 2010, the "University of Nevada Doctor of Nursing Practice" (UNDNP) program.

The goal of the UNDNP program is to prepare nurses at the highest level of clinical practice knowledge to assume leadership roles in clinical practice, administration, clinical teaching, and clinical research.

Within the next ten to fifteen years, many states, including Nevada, will see a significant shift in population demographics, including more people over the age of 65 and an increase in the numbers and severity of chronic health care problems. Our current models of health care delivery will not meet our future needs. Advanced practice nurses prepared at the DNP level will be necessary to meet our changing and future health care demands.

The UNDNP program will prepare graduates for advanced clinical practice and leadership roles to serve the health care needs of the people of Nevada, the nation, and the professional community. DNP graduates are equipped to assume a wide range of leadership roles in both direct and indirect health care settings. DNP graduates may function as specialists in their advanced practice clinical roles or as healthcare executives, or program and policy analysts. While the DNP is not designed to prepare nurse educators, students who take additional education courses can be prepared as nurse educators. The DNP

differs from the PhD in Nursing or Doctor of Nursing Science degrees, emphasizing advanced clinical practice, implementation of best practices, and evaluation of practice and care delivery models, rather than individually initiated research.

To accommodate working professionals' schedules, the UNDNP courses will be offered entirely online and will be taught by both UNLV and UNR faculty. The UNDNP is a 39-credit program, and nurses must have a master's degree to apply for admission to the program. Two tracks will be offered, the Advanced Practice track and the Nurse Executive track. The first, and likely to be the most popular track, is designed to augment the knowledge of currently practicing nurse practitioners (NPs). This track will provide NPs with knowledge and skills to evaluate patient care and improve outcomes. The second track will focus on skills for current nurse administrators to prepare them to better manage health care delivery systems.

continued on page 14 >>

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University of Nevada Doctorate of Nursing Practice (UNDNP)

Collaboration with University of Nevada Reno

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For more information about the DNP Program at UNLV contact:  
Dr. Susan VanBeuge at [susan.vanbeuge@unlv.edu](mailto:susan.vanbeuge@unlv.edu)

Visit our website at - <http://nursing/unlv.edu> or  
call our Graduate Program Office at (702) 895-3360

# UNLV

<< continued from page 10

whether temporary or permanent, including diagnosis, past hospitalizations, date of last treatment, current treatment plan, and how it impairs your ability to practice the full scope of nursing, AND

- A letter from your treating practitioner regarding the diagnosis, medications, current status and treatment plan, extent of condition, and a statement regarding your ability to carry out nursing duties reliably and with good judgment.

**What if I don't answer "yes" when I should have?**

It is important that you carefully read the screening questions and answer truthfully prior to signing and submitting your application to the Board. Once the Board receives your application it cannot be amended or altered. You signed the application attesting that all information that you provided was true and accurate. Answering a question, "no" when the answer should have been, "yes" may be considered submission of a fraudulent application and is subject to disciplinary action by the Board up to and including denial or revocation of your license/certificate.

If you are unsure how to answer the screening questions, please contact one of the Board offices and ask to speak with the Application Coordinator or a Nurse Investigator who can provide you with some direction.



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leadership in establishing clinical excellence (AACN, 2004)

The PhD will continue to be the scientist. The DNP, as the clinician with doctoral preparation for advanced nursing practice, will drive the scientific inquiry needed in nursing—the DNP will pose questions to the PhD. The PhD will discover new knowledge needed to change practice, and the DNP will translate the science in the clinical practice setting.

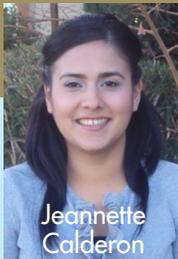
AACN has proposed that the DNP will be the educational preparation for the NP, CNS, CRNA, and CNM by 2015. The DNP recognizes the rigorous educational experience of programs that prepare advanced practice nurses (APRNs). However, the DNP is also an appropriate educational degree for baccalaureate graduates and master's-prepared nurses who are not APRNs who wish a practice focus in a population based specialty, such as with adolescent athletes; in administration where they will affect the environment of practice; in informatics to deliver clinical evidence, and in health policy where nursing scope of practice can be changed. For more information about the DNP program at Touro University Nevada contact Dr. Mary Brann, DNP Coordinator at [mary.brann@tun.touro.edu](mailto:mary.brann@tun.touro.edu) or admissions at (702) 777-1750 [admissions@tun.touro.edu](mailto:admissions@tun.touro.edu).

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Advanced practice nurses have been identified as major players in health care reform for our nation. By combining the faculty expertise and resources of UNR and UNLV, our two state universities, the collaborative DNP program will include the best university faculty throughout the Nevada System of Higher Education, will share the cost burden between UNR and UNLV for a new program, and will fulfill the mutual goal for collaboration between our two university-based nursing programs. UNDP graduates will be educated at the highest level of clinical practice knowledge and will serve as leaders in practice, administration, teaching and clinical research to position our state to meet the changing health care needs of the 21st century.

Applications for Fall 2010 will be accepted by both UNR and UNLV through April 1, 2010. You can apply online to UNR at [www.unr.edu/grad/ApplyOn-line.asp](http://www.unr.edu/grad/ApplyOn-line.asp) or to UNLV at [http://nursing.unlv.edu/programs\\_dnp\\_app.html](http://nursing.unlv.edu/programs_dnp_app.html).

For further information about the UNDP program, contact:  
Dr. Sarah Keating at [sarahk@unr.edu](mailto:sarahk@unr.edu) (Telephone: (775) 682-7163) or Dr. Susan Van Beuge at [Susan.VanBeuge@unlv.edu](mailto:Susan.VanBeuge@unlv.edu) (Telephone: (702) 895-3719)



Jeannette Calderon



Tammy Shaffer

## MEET THE STAFF

Jeannette Calderon and Tammy Shaffer are the Board's newest employees. Both started in November 2009 as receptionists in the Board's Las Vegas office.

As receptionists, Calderon and Shaffer are responsible for general program support including inquiries, information and referrals; processing initial and renewal applications; and fingerprint capture. Calderon is bi-lingual and provides Spanish-speaking services for consumers.

Prior to coming to the Board, Calderon worked for 4 years in a financial services check-cashing store. She is pursuing a degree in psychology at the College of Southern Nevada.

Calderon is married to her high school sweetheart and has a year-old baby boy. She states "I feel challenged by the work I do for the Board. It brings excitement to my life!"

Shaffer graduated from a Reno high school but now calls Las Vegas home. Before working for the Board, she worked in the clerical and retail fields.

When asked what she likes best about working for the Board, Shaffer says she "enjoys meeting people who help save lives on a daily basis". She is married and a mother of 5. In her spare time, she loves to read, play Bingo and spend time with her family. Please join us in welcoming our new employees. They provide a professional and friendly face in representing Nevada's Board of Nursing.

Have a question?  
Give us a call.

Nevada State Board of

# NURSING NEWS

## ADMINISTRATION

5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Suite 300, Reno, NV  
89502, 888-590-6726  
nursingboard@nsbn.state.nv.us

**Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE,**  
*Executive Director*

Statewide Liaison and Spokesperson  
Organizational and Public Management  
Fiscal and Human Resource Management  
Legislative and Governmental Relations  
APN Advisory Committee Chair  
Nursing Practice Advisory Committee Chair

**Chris Sansom, BSN, RN,** *Director of Operations*

Program Management  
CNA Advisory Committee Chair

**Fred Olmstead,** *General Counsel*  
Legal Counsel

**Dean Estes,** *Director of Finance/Technology*

Budget, Accounting and Payroll  
Technology Support  
Programming  
Website

**Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN,** *Education  
Consultant*

Nursing Education Programs  
CNA Training Programs  
Continuing Education Programs  
Education Advisory Committee Chair  
Advanced Practice and International Graduate  
Document Analysis

**Patty Shutt, LPN,** *Site Operations Supervisor*

Las Vegas Site Supervision  
Advanced Practice Certificate Processing

**Marianne Kadlic,** *Executive Assistant*

Assistant to the Executive Director  
Scheduling  
Board Meeting Agenda and Arrangements

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Christie Daliposon,** *Management Assistant*

Assistant to the Director of Operations  
Discipline Investigative Support  
Compliance Support  
Board Meeting Preparation  
Disability Advisory Committee Scheduling  
Nursys Data Entry

**Adela Smith,** *Assistant to the Director of Finance/  
Technology*

Initial and Renewal Applications  
Financial File Management  
Nursing Personnel Lists  
Spanish-Speaking Services for Consumers

**Cyndie Souza,** *Management Assistant*

Discipline Investigative Support  
Yes Answer and Fraudulent Application Processing  
Endorsement Forms  
Board Meeting Preparation  
Nursys Data Entry

## PROGRAM STAFF

5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Suite 300,  
Reno, NV 89502, 888-590-6726  
2500 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 207, Las Vegas, NV  
89102, 888-590-6726  
nursingboard@nsbn.state.nv.us

## INVESTIGATIONS AND MONITORING

**Linda Aure, BSN, RN-BC,** *Senior Investigator*

Complaint Investigations  
Nursing Practice Questions

**Amy Clark, BSN, RN,** *Application Coordinator*

Application Review  
Fraudulent Application Screening

**Cindy Peterson, RN, CRRN, CLNC, CHCQM,  
FAIHQ,** *Investigator*

Complaint Investigations  
Nursing Practice Questions

**Kathleen Reynolds, BHS, RN,**

*Compliance Coordinator*

Disability Advisory Committee Chair  
Disability Advisory Committee Scheduling  
Probation and Alternative Program Monitoring  
Reinstatement Applications

**Sherri Twedt, RN, CLNC,** *Investigator*

Complaint Investigations  
Nursing Practice Questions

## LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION

**Sarah Bowen,** *Licensure Specialist*

Licensure Eligibility Questions  
Endorsement and Examination Applications  
Continuing Education Providers  
International Nurse Graduates and Licensure  
Issues  
RN/LPN CEU Audits

**Patty Towler,** *Senior Certification Specialist*

CNA Registry Maintenance  
CNA Certification and Renewals  
CNA Program and Instructor Approvals  
Certification Audits (CNA, APN, CRNA)

## SUPPORT

**Ariadna Ramos,** *Program Assistant*

Endorsement Applications  
Licensure Eligibility Questions  
Spanish-speaking Services for Consumers  
Program Support of Licensure and Certification

**Gail Trujillo**

**Jeannette Calderon**

**Tammy Schaffer** -*Receptionists*

Renewal Applications  
Program Support  
Inquiries, Information and Referrals  
Licensure and Certification Applications



**Doreen Begley, MS, RN**

President, RN Member  
Term expires 10/31/12



**Patricia "Tish" Smyer,  
DNSc, RN**

Vice President, RN Member  
Term expires 10/31/12



**Kelly Espinoza, MSN, RN**

Secretary, RN Member  
Term expires 10/31/12



**Rick Carruthers,  
LPN**

LPN Member  
Term expires 10/31/13



**Belen Gabato, MS, RN**

RN Member  
Term expires 10/31/11



**Sandra Halley**

Consumer Member  
Term expires 10/31/13



**Carrie McMurray, CNA**

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