Welcome to the Premier Issue of Bridges Quarterly. NLNAC’s new quarterly electronic newsletter! In our quest to enhance communication with you, our constituents, we have developed this additional means of sharing news and providing updates. This newsletter will complement the Accreditation Manual and Annual Report to Constituents as a more timely and efficient means of keeping you abreast of the latest news related to accreditation.

Beginning with the next edition, we will have full text articles and briefs linked to our Website. Please let us hear from you! We are interested in your comments and response to the NLNAC Bridges Quarterly. Also, let us know if there is a particular area of interest you would like to see included in each edition. ‘Assuring Quality in Nursing Education’ remains our mission, and we are also striving for the highest quality service to our programs.

Review of the NLNAC Standards & Criteria

Phase One for the review of the NLNAC Standards and Criteria is underway! 2007 is the year for our constituent groups to participate in the evaluation of the quality and relevancy of the Standards and Criteria. Hundreds of you volunteered – thank you! The Subcommittees have been selected for each of the program types NLNAC accredits, and members have been invited to a meeting at the end of February in Houston, Texas. Literature searches have been conducted for trends in evaluation, nursing practice, and education; reading lists have been distributed to the committee members. Following an orientation session, the members will begin the work required for the comprehensive analysis of the current Standards as well as the development of the 2008 Standards & Criteria.

Each of you will have the opportunity to offer comments during the process. It is very important that you be involved and provide feedback to your peers on the Subcommittees as well as to the Commission throughout the analysis and development process. Please watch for Committee Membership updates on the NLNAC Website at www.nlnac.org and also in other future communications.

Call for Nominations...
NLNAC Board of Commissioners and Nominating Committee

NLNAC is seeking nominations for five Commissioners. We are requesting your assistance in identifying candidates for these positions: three educators representing all program types; one representative from nursing service; and one public representative. In addition, nominations are needed for one member of the NLNAC Nominating Committee. Commissioners and Nominating Committee members are elected for three year terms by the membership of NLN.

Click here for more information.

Space Still Available for 2007 Self-Study Forums

It’s not too late! There are a few remaining seats for the 2007 Self-Study Forums (March 8-9 at Boston, MA and April 2-3 at Orlando, FL). If your program is scheduled for review in 2008 or 2009, we encourage you to attend the Forum. If you are in the planning stages for accreditation, the Forum will provide you with helpful information as well as insightful tips to successfully navigate the path to initial accreditation. The Self-Study Forum is also an opportunity for faculty to learn more about the accreditation process, so we encourage you to consider attendance for new faculty members to acquaint them with the policies and practices involved in accreditation. Register online or call 800.669.1656 ext.261. See you there!