

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED

### 2012 NLNAC Elections Wrap-Up

The 2012 elections for five Commissioners and one Nominating Committee member are scheduled to close July 31, 2012. We would like to thank those who participated in the voting process. Visit the NLNAC website at [www.nlnac.org](http://www.nlnac.org) for an announcement of election results in September. The newly-elected Commissioners will take office on October 1, 2012.

### The NLNAC... Continuing to Grow

We are pleased to share the exciting news that the NLNAC offices are expanding once more. This expansion will provide additional space to support our continuing growth in accredited programs and enable the NLNAC to provide a higher level of support and services to the nursing education community. Although the suite number will remain the same, the new offices of the NLNAC will now occupy the majority of the eighth floor of the east tower of the Atlanta Financial Center. Construction is scheduled to start in early August.

## INVITE US

The professional staff, including CEO Dr. Sharon Tanner, welcome the opportunity to attend and/or speak at your meetings. In the upcoming months, we are scheduled to speak at several national meetings and at the state meetings for nurse educators in Michigan and Alabama. Please let us know if we can assist you by participating in the meetings for nursing program administrators and/or nursing faculty in your state or region.

The trademarks NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING ACCREDITING COMMISSION and NLNAC are owned by the National League for Nursing, Inc., and are being used pursuant to license.



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR Elizabeth H. Mahaffey, PhD, RN

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as Chair of the NLNAC Board of Commissioners for the past four years. The six years spent on the Board of Commissioners has been a time of personal and professional growth. The NLNAC Commissioners and staff have an unequaled commitment to the work of accreditation and to meeting our mission to "recognize educational institutions or programs that have been found to meet or exceed standards and criteria for educational quality." One of my favorite authors, John Maxwell, says "Problems either stop us or stretch us." We might have been stretched at times, but stretching has resulted in a stronger organization. I want to personally thank Dr. Sharon Tanner for her commitment to the NLNAC. Her leadership has resulted in our agency's recognition as a premier accreditation agency and as an organization that continues to increase the number of accredited nursing programs in the United States and in the global arena. Although I will be leaving the Board this September, I will continue to serve as a program evaluator and look forward to seeing all of you at nursing meetings. I encourage each of you to consider serving as a program evaluator, Evaluation Review Panel member, and Commissioner. My best wishes for a great academic year!

### UPDATE ON THE 2013 STANDARDS AND CRITERIA

We would like to thank everyone who reviewed Draft 1 of the NLNAC 2013 Standards and Criteria. The document was presented to all communities of interest for a comment period from May 31st - June 30th. We received an overwhelming response from over 1,800 individuals. Respondents included individuals representing nursing program administrators, faculty, and staff; students; nursing practice; state regulatory agencies; accrediting bodies; health organizations; and the general public. More than 700 sets of comments were received; all provided valuable feedback to guide the revisions for the next draft. The Subcommittees are analyzing the data and will be making revisions to the document. In August, Draft 2 of the 2013 Standards and Criteria will be posted at [www.nlnac.org](http://www.nlnac.org) for another comment period. We look forward to your continuing participation in this important process.

### FINAL FORUM TO FOCUS ON THE 2008 STANDARDS AND CRITERIA



The Fall 2012 Self-Study Forum in Orlando, October 18-19, 2012, is nearing capacity. For nursing programs preparing their Self-Study Report utilizing the 2008 Standards and Criteria for a Spring or Fall 2013 site visit, this will be the last opportunity to attend a Forum focusing on the 2008 Standards and Criteria. The Forum will be held at the [Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando](#). Guest rooms at the special group rate are limited and are almost sold out. We recommend that all those with confirmed

registrations for the Forum who plan to stay at the resort make reservations as soon as possible. To register for the Forum, visit us online at [www.nlnac.org](http://www.nlnac.org). See you in Orlando!

### FIRST INTERNATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM ACHIEVES CANDIDATE STATUS

Following the announcement of the implementation of accreditation opportunities for international nursing education programs, the NLNAC continues to receive inquiries regarding the eligibility requirements and review processes specific to international accreditation. In May 2012, the baccalaureate program at [King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia](#), became the first international nursing program to receive Candidate status. Applications from other programs in Saudi Arabia, Oman, Trinidad and Tobago, and Spain have been received and are currently under review. This is an exciting time for nursing education as NLNAC accreditation expands outside the U.S. We look forward to welcoming additional applications from international nursing programs seeking accreditation.



### MEET THE NLNAC STAFF



**Zaid Toukan - Data and Records Assistant** - Zaid Toukan joined the NLNAC staff last September as an intern from Georgia State University where he earned degrees in Computer Information Systems and Management. After the internship, he was hired as the Data and Records Assistant. His primary areas of responsibility are maintaining the physical and electronic records and files, ensuring database integrity, and providing data analysis. Originally from Wimborne, England, Zaid moved to Atlanta with his family in 1994. Zaid enjoys going to the movies, reading, watching sports, and playing golf.