



2002 STATE OF THE SCIENCE: CELEBRATION OF SHARING

Patricia A. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN, Director, NINR, NIH

A wonderful thing happened September 26-28 in Washington, DC: the 2002 State of the Science meeting. The meeting was sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and Sigma Theta Tau as well as the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and 20 other organizations, who brought together nurses whose insights and efforts change the face of nursing science. What an incredible aggregation of talent and landmark opportunity for intellectual exchange and networking from national and international perspectives.

Preconference events started Wednesday, September 25th, with the NightinGala, hosted by the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research and featuring Susan Dentzer, health correspondent for *The News Hour*, as the speaker.

On the morning of Thursday, September 26th, NINR, AACN, and the American Organization of Nurse Executives sponsored a preconference media training session entitled "Communicating with the Media: Turning Today's Research into Tomorrow's Headlines." This session was kicked off by Suzanne Gordon, award-winning journalist for the Boston Globe and author of books such as *Life Support: Three Nurses on the Front Lines* and *From Silence to Voice: What Nurses Know and Must Communicate to the Public*. After Gordon's talk, media trainers discussed with researchers and administrators strategies and approaches to increase media coverage of their research findings.

I was given the privilege of providing an opening talk on the foundations of nursing science and practice. The opening featured a special recognition to Sen Daniel K. Inouye (D, Hawaii) for his remarkable and long-standing support of nursing research. The remainder of the conference featured plenary sessions on the major contributions of nursing science, the study of innovative nursing models, and research to reduce health disparities and enhance quality of care. The conference also included symposia consisting of individual presentations and a dynamic poster session highlighting the work of both students and seasoned investigators.

The tradition of convening the State of the Science in our nation's capital increases our visibility with Congress and the national media, who serve as a proxy for the public at large. Gathered together were senior nurse researchers and clinicians next to policy wonks; legislative leaders; members of the press; students; and, very importantly, the citizens who benefit from the results of nursing research.

A national scientific meeting synergizes investigators, faculty, and clinicians and facilitates networking and collaboration. This year's State of the Science meeting provided a vital forum to exchange ideas, information, research findings, and resources. After this celebration of sharing, I am sure all who participated returned to work charged in a positive way. We wait with anticipation for the next meeting in 2004. ■

CALL FOR NURSING OUTLOOK MANUSCRIPT REVIEWERS

Reviewers are being solicited to evaluate manuscripts in the areas of nursing policy and undergraduate education. If interested, send a letter of intent and a copy of your curriculum vita to:

Carole A. Anderson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Editor
Nursing Outlook
The Ohio State University
College of Nursing
1585 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210-1289
FAX: 614-292-4535
Email: Anderson.32@osu.edu