



The KANS Connection

Spring 2013

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KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF NURSING STUDENTS

37th Annual KSNA Day at the Legislature

By Madeline Baumgartner, KANS Legislative Chair

February has come and gone, and once again nurses and nursing students from all across Kansas gathered in Topeka for the Annual Day at the Legislature (DATL). This February 7th celebrated the events 37th year, and took place in Topeka Performing Arts Center. The topic was "Nursing: Influencing Healthcare," and included a keynote address by Stephen Moore, RN, and Senior Policy Advisor to the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Moore spoke on the topic of "An Update on the Affordable Care Act (ACA)" and opened the floor to questions at the end. Carol Moore, PhD, APRN and Serena Stutzman, MSN, APRN spoke on "Involvement in the Political Arena" with a review of current healthcare legislature, respectively.

I followed Serena to give an update on the KANS Legislative Platform for this school year. The KANS board

decided earlier in the year that our focus would be on student nurses as disaster response volunteers. In the event of a disaster, be it environmental or man-made, nurses and nursing students are more equipped than most to respond effectively and efficiently. Our schooling and profession have taught us to react to the unexpected in a calm and collected manner, which are critical assets in keeping a bad situation from getting worse. Find out more about being involved through the Red Cross, the National Nurse Response Team, and the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) websites.

Overall, it was an interesting day with lots of things to learn and people to meet. If you didn't get a chance to come this year, I encourage you to keep an eye out for next year's DATL and get involved. After all, if we as nurses don't speak for healthcare, who will?



Madeline Baumgartner
KANS Legislative Chair



Madeline Baumgartner
delivering her fascinating
speech at DATL on student
nurses as disaster response
volunteers.

2013 SPRING SUMMIT & MONTHLY KANS MEETING

The KANS board met on March 9th with many important issues on the agenda, like what we needed to know to represent our state well at the National Association of Nursing Students' annual conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. We also discussed potential merchandise that would appeal to nursing students. The KANS board meetings always focus around what we can do to encourage participation among nursing schools in Kansas and how can we serve our state organization to its fullest. As your state board of directors, we are all working together to come up with fun and interesting ideas for the state convention, which will be October 24th & 25th. KANS always welcomes any ideas or suggestions from students and faculty.



Pictured from left to right: Miranda Wayman, Jordan Argo, Cylas Brooks, and Kayla Baker



KANS treasurer Lauren Kuefler (pictured at right) conversing with KSNA/KANS consultant & advisor Dr. Linda Adams-Wendling, Ph.D., ARNP, GNP-BC.

The Kansas Association of Nursing Students would like to officially introduce our 2012-2013 KANS Consultants, Kayla Baker and Samantha Grother. Kayla and Samantha are students at Emporia State University and both served on last year's board. Thank you Kayla and Sam for all of your hard work and dedication to the KANS organization!



Pictured left to right: Erika Adams, Newsletter Editor/Historian & Kris Baker, Vice President of Convention



Samantha Grother



Kayla Baker



KANS President Christopher Robinson

The KANS Connection

Hello Kansas nursing students,

I hope that you have enjoyed reading through the spring issue of The KANS Connection. The KANS board just returned from the NSNA annual conference. The next issue of our KANS newsletter will be a report on this conference. We have a lot of fun and interesting information to share, so this will be an issue that you don't want to miss! Also, I will soon be posting pictures from the NSNA convention to the KANS facebook page, www.facebook.com/TheKANSConnection. If you haven't done so already, please show your support by "liking" KANS on facebook.

Warmest regards,
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