



Working for You

# CMA Insider

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Vol. 3, No. 2

ANA and You – A Powerful Partnership

**CORE ISSUES:**

- Nursing Shortage
- Appropriate Staffing
- Patient Safety/Advocacy
- Workplace Health & Safety
- Workplace Rights

**CORNERSTONE WORK:**

- Professional Ethics
- Practice Standards

Keeping ANA’s members informed and engaged on key issues.

## ANA – the Voice for Nurses

### \$1 Million Cut From Nurse Workforce Development Programs in President’s FY 2006 Budget

President Bush’s proposed fiscal year (FY) 2006 budget contains a \$1 million cut to nursing workforce development programs over last year, leaving the nation’s patients more vulnerable to an escalating nursing shortage, according to ANA President Barbara Blakeney.

In the president’s budget, which was submitted to Congress Feb. 7, the total allotment for nursing workforce development programs, including the Nurse Reinvestment Act, is only \$150 million – an amount that is not sufficient to ensure that there will be enough nurses to meet the nation’s rising health care needs, said Blakeney. ANA and other nursing organizations hope to work with Congress and the administration to secure a significant funding increase in next year’s budget.

“With a predicted nursing shortage of more than 275,000 RNs by the year 2010, this is the wrong time to be cutting back our investment in this country’s future nurses,” Blakeney stated. “The need for a well-educated and professional nursing workforce will increase dramatically in the coming years,” she added.

The president’s FY 2006 budget proposal also reflects redistributed funding between basic and advanced nursing education, including nearly \$32 million for loan repayments and scholarships (the same as FY 2005), \$21 million for nursing diversity programs (an increase of \$5 million) and \$139 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (a \$1 million increase) and \$8 million for geriatric nurse education and nurse faculty loan-repayment programs (a \$1 million cut).

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## **Bush FY '06 Budget** *(Cont'd. from p. 1)*

Blakeney commended the president's proposed increases to nursing diversity and research but expressed dismay at the cuts to geriatric nurse education and nurse faculty loan-repayment programs. "While ANA agrees with the need to support programs aimed at attracting new people into nursing, such decisions should not be at the expense of programs that retain and support our advanced practice nurses," Blakeney said.

As Blakeney noted, recruiting sufficient nursing school faculty is key to increasing the nursing school capacity. More than 125,000 qualified applicants were turned away from nursing programs in 2004, in large part because of lack of faculty.

Contact: Erin McKeon at 301-628-5095 or [emckeon@ana.org](mailto:emckeon@ana.org).

## **Core Issues: Patient Safety/Health & Safety**

### **Flu Cases Spike; CDC Urges Persons in High-Risk Groups to Seek Shots**

With influenza season reaching its peak, as is evidenced by reports of flu cases causing overcrowded emergency rooms in many areas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends people at high-risk for serious complications from the flu seek vaccinations from their health care provider or local health clinics. About 3.5 million doses of flu vaccine are still available to the public this flu season, according to the CDC. For details on the issue, see [ANA's flu backgrounder](#).

For other flu vaccine details, call the CDC at 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Contact: Butch de Castro at 301-628-5138 or [bdecastro@ana.org](mailto:bdecastro@ana.org).

### **ANA Applauds Bill Prohibiting Forced RN Overtime**

ANA has commended Reps. Pete Stark (D-CA) and Steven LaTourette (R-OH) for introducing a bill that promises to strictly limit the practice of forcing nurses to work overtime.

The Safe Nursing and Patient Care Act of 2005 (H.R. 791), announced Feb. 10, would address the current nurse staffing crisis in the United States by strictly limiting mandatory overtime among nurses, a dangerous practice that has contributed to an exodus of nurses from the nation's hospitals and a decline in safe, quality patient care. ANA has been at the forefront of the push for this legislation and has worked collaboratively on its development.

"Study after study has shown that the use of forced overtime among nurses endangers nurses and their patients," said ANA President Barbara Blakeney. "The Safe Nursing and Patient Care Act would prevent health care facilities from forcing exhausted nurses to work extra shifts, an unsafe practice that puts both patients and nurses at risk," she added.

As evidence, Blakeney pointed to "The Working Hours of Hospital Staff Nurses and Patient Safety," a study published in the July/August 2004 issue of *Health Affairs*, which found that the risk of making an error greatly increased when nurses worked shifts longer than 12 hours, when they worked significant overtime or when they worked more than 40 hours per week. This study reinforced findings of the 2003 Institute of Medicine Report, "Keeping Patients Safe: Transforming the Work Environment of Nurses," which found that nurses' long working hours pose a serious threat to patient safety.

The ANA also has warned that mandatory overtime is dangerous for patients and nurses, and that the practice is exacerbating a growing nursing shortage.

For details, see [www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/2005/pr0210.htm](http://www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/2005/pr0210.htm).

Contact: Michelle Artz at 301-628-5087 or [martz@ana.org](mailto:martz@ana.org).

Core Issue: Patient Safety & Advocacy

## Gov. Schwarzenegger Pulls Back Proposal to Eliminate Board of Registered Nursing in California

Calling it a victory for nurses and patients, ANA applauded California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger for abandoning his proposal to eliminate the state's Board of Registered Nursing. The governor withdrew his controversial proposal Feb. 17.

The reform proposal, which the governor submitted to the Little Hoover Commission in January, had recommended eliminating 88 independent regulatory boards and commissions in addition to the Board of Registered Nursing. Both ANA and its California constituent, ANA/California, submitted expert testimony to the Little Hoover Commission, outlining strong opposition to the proposal. The Little Hoover Commission is an independent state agency that reviews the operations of state government.

"We are pleased the governor heard our concerns," said ANA President Barbara Blakeney. "The Board of Registered Nursing plays a vital role in regulating the practice of nursing and, therefore, protecting patients. We will continue to advocate for the board of nursing's independence and for the critical role it plays in protecting patients."

For ANA's comments to the Little Hoover Commission, see

<http://www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/2005/hover.pdf>.

Contact: Sue Whittaker at 301-628-5111 or [swhittak@ana.org](mailto:swhittak@ana.org).

## ANA Is Coming to You

Not able to spend the time and money to attend national meetings? Want quality education about nursing's hottest issues? Well, ANA is proud to introduce its new series "ANA Coming to You." These timely seminars will bring top notch education to your backyard – with speakers who are the ones actually shaping policy today. Each attendee of these courses will receive a complimentary copy of ANA's *Code of Ethics for Nurses* and a free National Nurses Week gift.

Mark your calendar today for the following:

### **Caring for Those Who Care: Preventing Injuries in Today's Work Environment** ([Agenda](#))

Atlanta, GA	April 30
Silver Spring, MD	May 7
Chicago, IL	May 9
Seattle, WA	June 3

### **Safe Staffing Principles**

(The agenda for this session is being finalized now; e-mail us at [convention@ana.org](mailto:convention@ana.org) if you want to be contacted when it becomes available.)

Charlotte, NC	Sept. 16
Wochester, MA	Sept. 30
Kansas City, MO	Sept. TBD
Las Vegas, NV	Oct. 20

Contact: Betty Whitaker at 301-628-5201 or [bwhitake@ana.org](mailto:bwhitake@ana.org).

## **ANA Supports Further Investigation Into Prisoner Abuse at U.S. Detention and Interrogation Facilities**

ANA has sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld supporting further investigation into possible actions of health care professionals in the abuse of detainees at U.S. detention and interrogation facilities. ANA is not aware of any specific situations that have involved registered nurses (RNs); however, it is concerned about the possible role that RNs or other health care professionals may have played in this abuse. The ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses and other ANA policies condemn violations concerning issues of health and human rights and guide the role of U.S. registered nurses in providing services. To read the letter, see <http://www.nursingworld.org/news/rumsfeldltr.pdf>.

Contact: Laurie Badzek at 304-293-1604 or [lbadzek@ana.org](mailto:lbadzek@ana.org).

### **Core Issues: Patient Safety/Health & Safety**

## **ANA and RISNA Collaborate to Promote Safe Patient Handling Among Rhode Island Health Care Leaders**

On Jan. 18, ANA presented its "Handle With Care" campaign as part of a Rhode Island Healthcare Leaders Meeting in Providence. The gathering, which was arranged and hosted by the Rhode Island State Nurses Association (RISNA), provided an opportunity to directly inform and promote an ANA-RISNA joint effort to advocate for safe patient handling measures that help prevent back injuries among nurses. The meeting was held in part to raise awareness among major decision makers so they could embrace the idea of establishing "no manual lift" policies throughout hospitals and health care systems within the state. Topics discussed included the risk of injury associated with manual patient handling and the effect on the nursing shortage, as well as the success of program and technology solutions in preventing injuries secondary to patient handling.

Contact: Butch de Castro at [Bdecastro@ana.org](mailto:Bdecastro@ana.org) or (301) 628-5138.

## **George Washington University School of Public Health Holds 'Handle With Care' Seminar**

Preventing back injuries and other work-related musculoskeletal disorders among members of the academic public health community was the topic of the week during a George Washington University School of Public Health seminar Jan. 26. The goal of the session, which was devoted exclusively to ANA's "Handle with Care" health and safety initiative, was to raise awareness of the risks associated with manual patient handling and how to prevent injuries through various program and technological solutions. Related economic, social and policy issues, including implications for older nurses and the nation's growing nursing shortage, also were addressed.

Contact: Butch de Castro at [Bdecastro@ana.org](mailto:Bdecastro@ana.org) or (301) 628-5138.

## **ANA Comments on AIA Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities**

On Jan. 31, ANA's Center for Occupational and Environmental Health submitted comments to The American Institute of Architects (AIA) regarding the revising of AIA's Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities. ANA's comments focused mainly on the need to incorporate ergonomic solutions regarding patient-handling needs. Recommendations included instituting language in the guidelines that focuses on installing ceiling-mounted lifts and providing enough space for the use and movement of portable, mobile lifting equipment. In addition, ANA recommended the use of flooring that would not hinder the pushing and pulling of wheeled equipment, including medication carts and patient beds.

Contact: Butch de Castro at 301- 628-5138 or [Bdecastro@ana.org](mailto:Bdecastro@ana.org).

## ANA Participates in Coalition to Raise Awareness of Deep-Vein Thrombosis, Promotes Awareness Month

On Jan. 28, ANA was represented by staff member Rita Munley Gallagher at a meeting of the Coalition to Prevent Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) in Washington, DC. During the meeting, an overview of coalition activities was provided and coalition spokesperson Melanie Bloom (widow of David Bloom, the NBC correspondent embedded with U.S. Troops in Iraq who died of DVT), was introduced. Ms. Bloom spoke to the importance of educating the public about DVT.

DVT is a common but serious medical condition that occurs when a thrombus (blood clot) forms in one of the large veins, usually in the lower limbs, leading to either partially or completely blocked circulation that may result in a pulmonary embolism (PE).

As a member of the DVT coalition, ANA is again promoting March as being DVT Awareness Month. According to a national survey conducted by the American Public Health Association, 74 percent of adults surveyed had little or no awareness of DVT. And, the American Heart Association reports that up to two million Americans are affected annually by DVT. Of those who develop PE, a complication of DVT, 60,000-200,000 will die, which is more than from breast cancer, AIDS and highway fatalities. Among those who are aware of DVT, more than half (57 percent) are not able to name any common risk factors or pre-existing conditions that can lead to the development of this condition.

With proper medical care, the condition can be prevented and treated. For details regarding March 2005 DVT Awareness Month, see [www.preventdvt.org](http://www.preventdvt.org).  
*Contact: Rita Munley Gallagher at 301-628-5062 or [rgallagh@ana.org](mailto:rgallagh@ana.org).*

## RESOURCES

### 'Cover the Uninsured Week' Has New Dates: May 1-7

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and a diverse group of national partners, including ANA, have announced a **date change – to May 1-7** (from April 30 to May 8) – for the third *Cover The Uninsured Week*. Please make a note of this calendar alteration. For details regarding *Cover the Uninsured Week* activities, see [www.CoverTheUninsuredWeek.org](http://www.CoverTheUninsuredWeek.org).  
*Contact: Carol Cooke at 301-628-5027 or [ccooke@ana.org](mailto:ccooke@ana.org).*

### Nurse Education Loan Repayment Deadline Extended; Apply Today!

The deadline for nurses with outstanding student loans to apply for the Nurse Education Loan Repayment Program has been extended to March 18. (To apply, see <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/nursing/loanrepay.htm>.) Through this program, nurses can have up to 85 percent of their outstanding loans paid by the federal government. For fiscal year 2005, Congress has allocated \$31 million for nursing loan repayments and scholarships. Last year, 857 loan repayments were awarded.

Applications also are being accepted for other Title VIII nursing workforce development programs, including:

Nursing Scholarship Program – May 27  
Nurse Faculty Loan Program – April 25  
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students Program – Sept. 1

For details, see <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/preview/>.

*Contact: Erin McKeon at 301-628-5095.*

Hold the Dates!

ANA House of  
Delegates –  
June 17-19, 2005  
Washington, DC

## 2005 National Nurses Week Theme – May 6-12



ANA's 2005 National Nurses Week theme is "Nurses: Many Roles, One Profession." To access the logo, see <http://www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/nnw/>.

## ANA – ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

### Free Estate Planning Provided by ANF

Need assistance with your estate planning? Did you know you can get that help for free – from the American Nurses Foundation (ANF)?

Estate-planning options include outright gifts, bequests, securities, various charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder annuity trust, charitable remainder unitrust, charitable lead trust, real estate, tangible personal property, bank accounts, certificates of deposit, and retirement plan assets. If you are interested in learning more about any of these ideas, at no cost or obligation, call ANF today.

Please note that this information is not intended as legal advice. For legal advice, consult an attorney. For financial advice, contact your financial advisor.  
*Contact: David Felzenberg at 301-641-7248 or [dfelzenb@ana.org](mailto:dfelzenb@ana.org).*

### ANF Celebrates its Golden Anniversary Visit the ANF Booth at the Research Society Meetings to find ANF's '50 Wishes for your Nursing Dreams'

*Nurses are golden* – at the American Nurses Foundation (ANF) booth. So, be sure to stop by to learn more about ANF programs that support nurses and to check out our new “caring and sharing” benefits.

Mark your calendars today for any one of the following:

- Midwest Nursing Research Society - April 1-4, 2005, Cincinnati, OH
- Western Institute of Nursing - April 6-8, 2005, San Francisco, CA
- Eastern Nursing Research Society - April 7-9, 2005, New York, NY
- **House of Delegates (HOD) – June 2005 in Washington, DC**

Then, *twist the night away* at ANF's 1950s Sock Hop. Get your poodle skirts, bobby socks, saddle shoes, leather jackets ready and slick back those ducktails. Also, the *OutBid* Silent Auction will be back at HOD by popular demand as will the fun-filled frenzy of the ANF silent auction, but with a twist...a '50s twist.

And finally, don't forget to e-mail us with your favorite '50s phrase. Tell us all about your favorite celebrity ...song...movie. ANF wants to know.

For details regarding ANF's research and education programs that promote public health and advance the nursing profession, or to find out how to donate to ANF, visit [www.ANFonline.org](http://www.ANFonline.org).

*Contact: Holly Blackledge at 301-628-5228 or [hblackle@ana.org](mailto:hblackle@ana.org).*

## OF NOTE

### **Nursesbooks.org Seeks Help in Promoting ANA Books to College Nursing Programs**

*Nursesbooks.org* has experienced a surge in demand for four popular ANA publications through the Course Adoption Program introduced last Spring. Since then, hundreds of professors teaching bachelor, master and associate level nursing courses have adopted ANA titles into their curriculums.

The most widely requested is *ANA's Foundation of Nursing Package* which contains the *Nursing: Scope & Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics* and *Social Policy Statement*. Other titles being tested in the course adoption program include *Florence Nightingale Today: Healing, Leadership and Global Action*; *Soul of the Caring Nurse: Stories and Resources for Revitalizing Professional Passion*; and ANA's latest cutting-edge publication *Genetics Nursing Portfolios: A New Model for Credentialing*. Response to the genetics book has been particularly positive since this is a relatively new field in nursing.

ANA strongly encourages Constituent Member Associations to promote these publications via Web sites, newsletters, email lists and other communications that will reach nursing educators and, respectively, state boards of nursing. To order any of these publications or request a Winter 2005 catalog, go to [www.nursesbooks.org](http://www.nursesbooks.org) or call 1-800-637-0323. *Contact: Francine Bennett at 301-628-5214 or [fbennett@ana.org](mailto:fbennett@ana.org).*

### **HHS Responds to 'Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day' Campaign Name Change Suggestion**

The United States Department of Health & Human Services is open to considering a name change to the annual "Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day" campaign held on the third Tuesday of each September, according to a letter received by ANA Jan. 28.

In the letter, written by Garth N. Graham, acting deputy assistant secretary for Minority Health, to ANA President Barbara Blakeney, Graham noted, "Exploring a new name for our campaign might well be a valuable change that health care providers and our public and private partners can embrace for the good of the communities we serve." Graham further indicated that he has asked campaign working groups "to work diligently in exploring new names" for the 2005 campaign – "one that we can all be proud of for the betterment of the populations we serve."

Blakeney had joined the Center for Nursing Advocacy, a group dedicated to protecting the image of nurses and nursing, in writing to former HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson asking for a formal name change to the campaign. *Contact: Cindy Price at 301-628-5038 or [cprice@ana.org](mailto:cprice@ana.org).*

### **2005 Nursing Research Grants Booklet Available**

The American Nurses Foundation (ANF) has announced that its 2005 Nursing Research Grants booklet – featuring 28 nursing grants – is available in print and online formats. Last year over 4,000 people downloaded the booklet, and 500 more were mailed. The booklet is also available on ANF's Web site, [www.anfonline.org](http://www.anfonline.org), as a downloadable electronic file, and print copies will be available at research society meetings this spring. *Contact: Leo Schargorodski at 301-628-5230 or [lschargo@ana.org](mailto:lschargo@ana.org).*

# CALENDAR

## February/March Meeting Highlights

February 1-2	ANCC Accreditation Review Committee
February 2-4	ANCC Item Reclassification
February 6-8	ANCC Commission on Classification Meeting
February 7-9	ANCC Pediatric Nurse Practitioner 06 Item Review Bank
February 9	ANCC International Advisory Council*
February 10	ANCC/Institute for Credentialing Innovation (The Institute) Governing Council*
February 10-11	ANA/ANF Nurse Competence in Aging Partners Meeting
February 14-15	Congress on Nursing Practice & Economics Spring Mtg.
February 14-16	ANCC Adult Nurse Practitioner Item Bank Review
February 14-16	ANCC Item Bank Review
February 16	ANA Board of Directors*
February 18 -20	ANCC Board of Directors Meeting
February 22	ANA Nominating Committee*
February 23	ANCC Clinical Specialist in Medical-Surgical Nursing 05-Item Reclassification
February 24	ANCC Accreditation Program Public Comment Meeting
February 24	ANCC Endowment Fund Task Force
February 25	Red Cross Blood Drive
March 03-04	ANCC/ICI (The Institute) Governing Council Meeting
March 9	ANA Board of Directors*
March 9-11	ANCC Gerontological Nurse Practitioner 23-Item Bank Review
March 10-11	ANCC-Accreditation Program – Streamlining Task Force
March 16	ANA Committee on Planning and Budget
March 17-18	ANA Board of Directors Meeting/Enterprise-wide Strategic Planning Executive Leaders Meeting
March 17-18	ANCC/ICI (The Institute) March 05 Journey to Excellence and Magnet Designation Workshop, Phoenix, AZ
March 19	ANA/ANF Joint Board of Directors Meeting
March 19-21	ANF Board of Trustees Meeting
March 21-23	ANCC Item Bank Review
March 24-25	ANA Committee on Bylaws
March 25	ANCC Executive Committee*
March 29	ANCC Board of Directors*
March 30	ANCC Commission on Magnet Strategic Planning Meeting
March 31-April 1	ANCC Commission on Magnet Spring 2005 Meeting
* Conference Call	

## ANA President's and CEO's Activities

February 3-6	Natl. Nursing Executive Director Retreat, Tampa, FL***
February 9-10	Kansas State Nurses Association – Annual Day at the Legislature, Topeka, Kansas
February 14-15	Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics Meeting**
February 18-20	ANCC Board of Directors Meeting, ANA Headquarters Silver Spring, MD**
February 23-25	New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc. State Convention, Keynote Speaker, Atlantic City, NJ
February 28-March 4	Safe Patient Handling Conference, St. Petersburg, FL

(Cont'd. on p. 9)

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(Note: All meetings are in Silver Spring, MD, unless otherwise noted)

Reminder: Every effort is made to verify Web links at the time of publication; however, Web links are dynamic and subject to change.

## **ANA President's and CEO's Activities** *(Cont'd. from p. 8)*

March 10-11	2005 Natl. Nursing Research Roundtable, Bethesda, MD
March 14-16	CERTs Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
March 16	ANA Committee on Planning and Budget**
March 17-18	ANA Board of Directors Meeting/Enterprise-wide Strategic Planning Executive Leaders Meeting**
March 17	United American Nurses (UAN) Natl. Labor Assembly, 5th Anniversary Celebration, Botanical Gardens Observatory, Washington, DC**
March 18-20	ANF Board of Directors Meeting**

\* Conference Call

\*\*ANA CEO also attend/participated

\*\*\*CEO schedule

