Editorial

Welcome to this the third issue of *The Journal of Undergraduate Nursing Writing*. In its third year, this journal continues with its tradition as a compilation of original articles written by senior nursing students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Kansas School of Nursing. This year we are additionally proud to be able to say that this journal was recognized in 2008 with a Regional Excellence Award from Sigma Theta Tau International.

This third issue has strayed little from our initial conception for this journal. That is, to offer the seniors at the School of Nursing a showcase for their thinking and writing abilities. Over the last few years we have been increasingly impressed with the ability of the senior students. It is with great pleasure that we bring you this third edition.

With this issue, we followed the format of the first two issues by starting with a call for papers sent to the seniors explaining the idea and the requirements for contributing their articles. This year we received more than 20 articles. After a peer review, eight were selected that met the standard set for publication.

These articles originated as assignments given in two senior-level classes. The original call for papers did not limit their entries to any particular classes, but all papers received came from the Populations or Legal/Ethical Foundations of Professional Nursing courses. Thus, the content represented here deals with legal, ethical, or population issues.

Writing about these issues was not easy. These authors all showed an ability to describe these issues in their own manner while using sophisticated resources. Examples of topical choices include the savior child, mandating the HPV vaccine, bariatric surgery in children, use of forceps in labor, underreporting of suspected child abuse, open and closed adoption, sex education controversies, and opt-out testing concerns for HIV positive people. All of these articles contain the same element of being uniquely written in the style of today’s graduating nursing student.

This endeavor would not have been possible without the support of several dedicated individuals and organizations. The Dykes Library staff at the University of Kansas Medical Center campus were wonderful, particularly Karen Cole and her staff for their vision, direction, & technical ability without which this project would never have happened. Of particular recognition is Jason Stirnman, who has supported our efforts with his expertise in the use of the technology for distributing these articles. Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta International provided the financial support along with the positive encouragement of the Chapter Executive Board. Without this, the prizes each author received for the selection of their article would not have been possible. Lastly, we commend the faculty and staff at the University Of Kansas School Of Nursing for their patience and responsiveness as we sorted through all the issues necessary to make this happen. We would have been lost without their willingness to listen and share their own personal experiences.
We hope you enjoy this third volume and await your feedback. Let us know what you think.

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