

**FALL 2007  
 SELF-STUDY  
 FORUM**

*We have received many requests for a forum this fall in the western US.*

*Watch for an announcement soon as to location and date! This will be an excellent opportunity for faculty and program administrators to learn more about the accreditation process.*

*Contact us now to reserve a space! Email Anthony Bugay at [abugay@nlnac.org](mailto:abugay@nlnac.org) or call 800.669.1656 ext. 261.*

**COMING SOON...**

*Draft #1 of the revised Standards and Criteria (including new Standards and Criteria for the practice doctorate) is scheduled for release and public comment in early June.*

*This will be your opportunity to be a part of this important process. We welcome your feedback.*



**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**  
**Dr. Grace Newsome**  
**Chair, NLNAC Commission**

I hope everyone is having a successful spring semester. I know that the countdown to the end of the semester has started, and everyone is very busy. NLNAC has had a great spring thus far with site visits, evaluation panel meetings, Commission meetings, Standards and Criteria Task Force meetings, and the Self-Study Forum. We have received great feedback from our efforts to improve the Self-Study Forum, and we are very gratified with the results. Dr. Tanner, our new Executive Director, has done a great job in initiating a number of changes at NLNAC, and we applaud her efforts to make us the best we can be. We will be tabulating the results from the site visits in regards to distance learning offerings by our programs and using that information as we revise our Standards and Criteria. In the near future, we plan to submit a proposal to the Department of Education related to expansion of scope for distance education. Dr. Tanner and I have both had the opportunity to have discussions with Dr. Beverly Malone, the new Executive Director of NLN, who began her position February 1st of this year. She has been very gracious and supportive of NLNAC initiatives. We are excited about moving into a new era of cooperation and collaboration with NLN. These efforts will greatly benefit both organizations and make each of us stronger. We welcome your comments and concerns. Please feel free to contact Dr. Tanner or myself if you wish to share anything—positive or negative. I wish you a very successful end to your academic year. We hope that you will share our new and exciting electronic newsletter with your faculty and staff.

**REVIEW AND REVISION OF NLNAC STANDARDS & CRITERIA**  
**Marilyn Smidt, NLNAC Commissioner**

Last fall we issued an invitation to those of you who were interested in working on the review and revision of the NLNAC Standards and Criteria. I am happy to say that many of you volunteered. From the list of volunteers, program evaluators, and evaluation review panel members we selected individuals to serve on the six program specific sub-groups. As you know, NLNAC has an ongoing systematic plan published in the [Accreditation Manual](#) that describes how we function. It specifies that every three years NLNAC will conduct an assessment and revision of the Standards and Criteria for Accreditation of Nursing Programs. We conduct the assessment and review according to this plan and then publish the revised Standards and Criteria. Most recent publication dates have been in 2002 and 2005. Volunteers are essential to this process. [Click here to read more...](#)

**RECORD ATTENDANCE AT 2007 SELF-STUDY FORUMS** - The NLNAC staff has just completed two newly revamped Self-Study Forums this Spring. Thanks to your interest in accreditation, the Boston forum had over 240 attendees while the Orlando forum almost exceeded the available space with close to 300. Colleagues came from all points in the United States and beyond and all program types were represented. This year a special session for those planning for initial accreditation and first time participation in the accreditation process was included at the end of the first day. Attendees comments noted the helpfulness of the small groups and 'on-target' presentations. Many described the revised forums as 'user-friendly' and 'well worth their time'.



**MEET OUR STAFF..... NLNAC Celebrates Our 10 Year Employees**

This section introduces you to members of the NLNAC staff. We hope this will give you the opportunity to get to know us and learn our role in assisting you, our programs.



**YVONNE M. LOPEZ, Special Assistant** - Yvonne lives in Queens, NY with her 13 year old son, Mark. She is the friendly voice on the phone for program evaluators as they travel, and is responsible for the scheduling of site visits. Yvonne loves swimming, puzzles, and taking care of plants. **MICHAEL PHILIP, Administrative Assistant** - Mike is originally from Antigua in the Caribbean. He is responsible for receiving and distributing program and NLNAC materials. In his free time, Mike enjoys traveling, basketball, and other outdoor adventures.

