

Villanova University Chapter
Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania
(SNAP-Villanova)
Office 229 Driscoll Hall, College of Nursing

February, 2017

To the BSN Express Students:

On behalf of Villanova's Chapter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP-Villanova), we welcome you to the College of Nursing and invite you to become a member of SNAP and the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). Villanova has one of the largest and most active chapters in the United States. Our chapter is affiliated with the state organization (also called SNAP) and is a constituent of the NSNA. SNAP-Villanova has often held the state designation of "Most Outstanding Chapter in Pennsylvania (Category 2) and is one of only a few nursing programs designated by NSNA as a Stellar School.

Membership in SNAP-Villanova brings many opportunities for learning, professional development, community service and friendship. Twice monthly chapter meetings during the academic year almost always feature a guest speaker who is an expert on topics of interest to our members. Such topics have included: International Nursing, Emergency Nursing, Travel Nursing, Women's Health, Financial Management, Pediatric Oncology, Stress Management, the Role of Nurse Navigators, and Strategies for Getting Your Dream Job. A variety of community service projects allows even members with little extra time to be involved. SNAP-Villanova's projects have included participation in the campus' Special Olympics, implementing special programs at Philadelphia's Ronald McDonald House and at a Philadelphia school, working with the football team for the Coach Andy Talley Bone Marrow Donor Drive and other projects, creating cards for American troops serving abroad, etc. In addition, the state SNAP and NSNA offer scholarships and honors which many of our students (including BSN Express students) have won. SNAP sponsors large delegations of our members to the annual state SNAP convention, held in November, and to the annual NSNA convention, held in April. During your time at Villanova the November, 2017 state convention will be at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos, and the 2018 NSNA convention will be in Nashville, TN. For over 30 consecutive years, Villanovans have been elected to the state student Board of Directors; several Villanovans have served on the Board of the NSNA.

SNAP and NSNA members come from diverse backgrounds. There are many non-traditional adult as well as traditional student members. SNAP-Villanova is run by an elected 23 student member board that includes two representatives from the BSN Express program. BSN Express students participate in all activities and projects as time and interest allow. Through SNAP and NSNA, *all* undergraduate nursing students are united.

Many BSN Express students have family and other responsibilities in addition to school. However, the publications, scholarship opportunities and other benefits make membership worthwhile even for those who might not have time to commit to many extracurricular activities. SNAP brings together nursing students and provides ways to get to know future colleagues. SNAP and NSNA are also well known organizations, and membership is a positive addition to a resume.

For maximum benefits, we suggest that you join at both the chapter and state/national levels. To join the chapter, send a check for \$20, payable to Villanova University to: Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, SNAP Advisor, College of Nursing, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. This will cover the entirety of your chapter dues, including refreshments at chapter meetings, during the time you are in the BSN Express program at Villanova University.

Joining the NSNA is easy and automatically brings membership in the state SNAP. Simply log onto: www.nsna.org. You can also find out more about the state SNAP and NSNA through the websites: www.snap-online.org and www.nsna.org

We look forward to meeting you and wish you a personally and professionally fulfilling career in nursing. Do not hesitate to contact either of us if you would like further information.

Sincerely,

Katrina Garzón

Katrina Garzón, Class of 2018
President, Villanova University Chapter
SNAP-Villanova
Email: kgarzon@villanova.edu

Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF

Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF
Advisor, Villanova University Chapter
SNAP-Villanova
Email: carol.weingarten@villanova.edu