

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

April 2002

Liz Thomas Honored with Jefferson Award for Community Service

Congratulations to 2000 WSNA Hall of Fame awardee, Elizabeth Thomas, ARNP, who was honored yesterday as one of six statewide recipients of the prestigious Jefferson Award for outstanding community service. One of the six winners will receive a national Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award in Washington, D.C., in June.

Thomas was nominated for her many years of providing care and comfort to children in need as a dedicated pediatric nurse practitioner at the Odessa Brown Children's Clinic in Seattle.

"These six men and women reached out beyond themselves, beyond their own self-interests," P-I Editor and Publisher Roger Oglesby said at the ceremony. "Their work benefits all of us and makes this state a better place to live."

For more information, see the Seattle PI article at: seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/65069_jeff03.shtml.

To view the Seattle PI profile of Liz Thomas, visit: seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/64841_thomas02.shtml

ARNPs United Dinner

AUWS is having an evening of education and information sponsored by Pzifer, Inc. on April 24th at the Rainier Golf and Country Club. There will be a discussion on Allergy and Asthma by Eric Gershwin, MD. Come meet ARNPs from all over WA and discuss the future of ARNPs United over dessert.

Who: Non-Members and Members of ARNPs United
When: April 24th, 6:30 Arrival, 7:00 Dinner
Where: Rainier Golf and Country Club, 1856 South, 112th, Seattle, WA 98168

RSVP: Rick Shigaki: 206.282.2468.

ACNP Testifies Before House Committee on Medicare Payment Policy

The American College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) testified on February 14th before the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Health, stating that the 5.4% across-the-board cut in Medicare payment rates would have an enormous impact on nurse practitioners (NPs) and on patient care. ACNP Government Relations Counsel Allison Weber Shuren, JD, RN, CPNP, CNS spoke on behalf of ACNP regarding Medicare payment policy for nurse practitioners.

The Subcommittee's hearing, "Medicare Payment Policy: Ensuring Stability and Access Through Physician

Payments" was an opportunity for discussion of the devastating cut in the payment rates under the Part B fee schedule and the potential and actual impact that this decrease will have on patient care. There is legislation pending that would decrease this cut to a 0.9% across-the-board cut, and Congress is considering whether there is some way to revise the current system of determining the conversion factor used to set payment rates. ACNP believes that action is needed now in order to avoid deterioration in access and the quality of care. "Members from 23 states have reported that problems have already occurred because of the cuts," Shuren noted.

One of ACNP's chief legislative priorities is to increase access to outcome driven, cost-effective health care by educating policymakers of the benefits of an interdisciplinary team approach to the delivery of health care services. ACNP considers direct Medicare reimbursement for nurse practitioners a key component of this mission and, as a result, is extremely concerned by the 5.4% cut for provider reimbursement under the Medicare Part B fee schedule and by the formula used to calculate the annual conversion factor update.

Shuren's testimony to the Subcommittee included specific examples from ACNP's membership on how this change will negatively affect their practices and patients.

Witnesses testifying before the Subcommittee's hearing were by invitation only, and ACNP was pleased to have been included in this important hearing, providing NPs with the opportunity to share how the reimbursement cut and the difficulties with the Medicare Economic Index ("MEI") and the Sustainable Growth Rate ("SGR") impact providers other than physicians. As the geriatric population grows, ACNP is dedicated to the protection of patient care, the availability of services and the quality of those services. "ACNP is grateful for the House Energy and Commerce Committee's commitment to these critical issues," Shuren noted.

ACNP will continue to work with the Committee in the coming weeks to help resolve this update issue and other significant health care issues. Copies of ACNP's testimony before the Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Health are available from ACNP's offices 202.659.2190 or on the ACNP website, www.acnpweb.org.

ACNP Briefing Papers Now Online

Now available on ACNP's Public Policy web site, <http://www.acnpweb.org> are policy briefing papers on several important issues for NPs, including the Geriatric Care Act, Home Health Care Certification, Medicaid

Managed Care, Nursing Shortage legislation and Patients' Bill of Rights legislation. The Briefing Papers are designed to be succinct overviews of these issues, including background, current legislation, and requests for action.

Wanted
1200 NPs to Support
 the
National NP Marketing Campaign!
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PO Box 1375
Water Mill, NY 11976.
 Get more information at www.nurse.net/mc

Classified Ads

UW ARNP Opportunity

The University of Washington Department of Biobehavioral Nursing & Health Systems seeks a 20-50% Lecturer (11-month position) for Rural-Adult Nurse Practitioner Master of Nursing Program. Responsibilities include classroom and clinical skills teaching, clinical supervision and related academic roles.

Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree from an accredited nurse practitioner program, ARNP licensure with prescriptive authority in Washington State. Current practice as a nurse practitioner in clinical setting. Interest in teaching. Practice experience with rural and medically underserved populations.

Rank and salary commensurate with qualifications. Send CV to Judith Kelson, University of Washington School of Nursing, Box 357266, Seattle, Washington, 98195-7266 or email jkelson@u.washington.edu.

The University of Washington is building a culturally diverse faculty and strongly encourages applications from female and minority candidates. The University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Washington State ARNP

Clallam County Hospital District No. 1 is located in the NW corner of the Olympic National Park and is close to the ocean, high country, hiking, fishing and hunting and many in the community are active in the arts. We are seeking a Family Practice ARNP to be the medical provider in one of our clinics. Prefer three years experience. We offer an excellent benefits package including paid malpractice and liberal paid leave. Please send CV to: Forks Community Hospital, 530 Bogachiel Way, Forks, WA 98331. Phone: 360.374.6271. FAX: 360.374.5220. www.forkshospital.org.

ARNP

Stevens Cardiology Group in Edmonds, a member of the Swedish Heart Institute, is seeking a full time ARNP to man-

age our cardiac inpatient program. Req's Master's degree in nursing & completion of an accredited ARNP program; 1yr ARNP exp. pref'd, but will consider previous cardiac inpatient expertise; current WA RN/ARNP license with prescriptive authority. Mon-Fri, days.

We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefit plan. Please fax your CV to Pam @ (425) 744-1790 or call (425) 744-1784 to inquire; e-mail pams@swedishheart.org. EOE



SWEDISH PHYSICIAN DIVISION

Kitsap Mental Health Services

Provide psychiatric evaluation, medication management, follow-up and consultation for Adult Outpatient Program clients in a highly supportive team environment. Requires ARNP prescriptive authority for WA State, specialty in adult psychiatry, excellent communication skills and the ability to collaborate with staff, consumers, family members and providers.

Our comprehensive community mental health facility is located on the beautiful Kitsap Peninsula, with mountain wilderness, pristine waterways and the Seattle metropolitan area offering diverse recreational activities and fantastic scenery. With high quality of life and a great work environment, we've been one of *WA CEO's* "Best Companies to Work for" for four consecutive years. Send resume and/or application to:

Kitsap Mental Health Services

ATTN: HR

5455 Almira Drive N.E.

Bremerton, WA 98311

FAX to 360...

Jobline 360...

www.kitsapmentalhealth.org

AA/EOE

Be a Part of an Innovative Nursing Faculty

Gonzaga University's Department of Nursing is seeking individuals for full-time tenure track and non-tenure track positions with backgrounds in population-focused health care, pathophysiology, pharmacology and primary care (FNP). FNP faculty applicants must be nationally certified.

The successful faculty candidates will have a master's degree in nursing, relevant practice experience, and, preferably, university teaching experience. Tenure track positions also require an earned doctorate in nursing or a related discipline (ABD will be considered).

Responsibilities include teaching, advising (including thesis advising), and participation in departmental governance activities. Individuals interested in pursuing departmental leadership opportunities and responsibilities are particularly encouraged to apply. The Department's programs are delivered in both on campus and distance formats on a 12-month basis. Faculty have the option of a 9 or 12 month contract. There is an increasing emphasis on incorporating technology into our program delivery formats.

Gonzaga University is a Jesuit institution located in the heart of the Inland Pacific Northwest. Nationally recognized for its academic quality, Gonzaga has several schools and colleges serving 5,000 students. The nursing programs are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Gonzaga is an AA/EO employer offering competitive salaries

and a benefits package, including tuition waiver for employees, spouses, and dependents. Practice opportunities are available for NP faculty. As a Jesuit, Catholic, humanistic institution, we are interested in candidates who will contribute to our distinctive mission. Gonzaga University is an AA/EEO employer and educator committed to diversity.

Applications accepted until qualified candidates are identified. Appointment will begin September 1, 2002. Rank and salary are commensurate with qualifications.

Send letter of interest and curriculum vitae to:

Dr. Susan Norwood, Chairperson
Department of Nursing
Gonzaga University
Spokane WA 99258-0038
509.323.5542 or 509.323.6646
1.800.793.1715
FAX: 509.323.5827
e-mail: norwood@gu.gonzaga.edu

ARNPs

This is an excellent opportunity to join a team of caring professionals. Pierce County is looking for ARNPs with psychiatric and medical specialties to fill positions available in the Regional Support Network. The Pierce County RSN is highly regarded throughout Washington State and the nation; the facility houses the county crisis system, and the inpatient unit has had a strong presence in the community for over a century. We offer competitive salary and excellent benefits. For more information please contact Kathie Lybecker at 253.798.6153 or visit our website at www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs.

ARNP for Women's Clinic

Nurse Practitioner wanted for busy women's clinic in beautiful downtown Seattle. Needs ARNP for 1-2 days/wk. Must be comfortable with IUD insert and removal, annual exams, abnormal paps, STD testing, family planning, and birth control. Abortion follow-up experience helpful. Fax resume and cover letter to 206.625.1910.

CE Opportunities

Advances in Treating Rheumatic Diseases

May 1, 2002, at Shoreline Conference Center in Seattle. Sponsored by the UW CNE This biennial conference explores new approaches to the assessment and management of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and other rheumatic disease. [7 contact hrs. Single day: \$160 indiv/\$145 group rate]. For further information, please see contact information below.

Psychopharmacology Seminars

May 2-3, 2002, Pasco, WA (DoubleTree Hotel); May 9-10, Spokane, Washington (WestCoast Ridpath). **For the first time in Washington!** Dr. Robert Julien, acclaimed teacher and author of the best-selling textbook, *A Primer of Drug Action*, 9th edition, presents a comprehensive 2-day course on psychopharmacology. Day One: Psychotherapeutic Drugs. Day Two: Drugs of Abuse. Earn 14 hours of credit (7 hours each day). Topics include: Day #1: Sedatives, anti-manic drugs, antipsychotic drugs, antidepressants, child & adolescent psychopharmacology. Day #2: Alcohol, GHB, inhalants of abuse, cocaine, amphetamines, opioid narcotics, marijuana, and psychedelics. For more information or to register on-line, visit our

web site, www.drjulien.com. To request a brochure, call Becky Julien at 503-805-0023 or send an e-mail to Becky@drjulien.com.

Rituals for Grief & Joy

May 3, 2002, 6:30 pm to 10 pm., Sunset Hill Community Center. 206.781.0839. Learn rituals and new energy tools for grieving, de-stressing, and feeling JOY. Elaine Childs Gowell, PhD. Fee: \$35.00 by March 15; \$65 by April 15th; \$95 after. (3.9 WSNA CEU). Send fees to: 4702 Aurora Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103.

Women's Health Drug Therapy 2002 Clinical Pharmacology Series

May 14, 2002, at Shoreline Conference Center in Seattle. Sponsored by the UW CNE. This annual update for nurses in advanced practice focuses on current recommendations in drug therapy for women's health problems. [8 contact hrs. (6.5 clock hrs) Single day: \$160 indiv/\$145 group rate]. For further information, please see contact information below.

Adult Drug Therapy 2002 Clinical Pharmacology Series

May 21, 2002, at Shoreline Conference Center in Seattle. Sponsored by the UW CNE. This annual update for nurses in advanced practice focuses on current recommendations in drug therapy for adults. [8 contact hrs. (6.5 clock hrs) Single day: \$160 indiv/\$145 group rate]. For further information, please see contact information below.

Spirituality, Health & Medicine Graduate Certificate Program

Join a diverse group of healthcare and other professionals in a stimulating ten-weekend exploration of spirituality, its role in healing, mind/body and alternative medicine, and the role that compassionate relationships play in health and health care. In a sequence of three 8-credit graduate level courses and related projects you will learn how prayer, meditation and spiritual practice influence biochemistry and health. You'll deepen your own spiritual life through study and practice of a spiritual path or religious tradition of your choice. You'll explore how quantum physics' definitions of reality, energy and matter alter our definitions of consciousness, life, death, and the role of the healer. You'll select some form of mind/body medicine to study and experience, and have low-coast access to Bastyr's Center for Natural Health. You'll study and experience how and why trusting, compassionate relationships are a major force for healing. And you'll develop a renewed sense of your values, your calling and your profession. Classes meet one Saturday and Sunday per month from September-June on Bastyr's beautiful wooded campus in Kenmore adjacent to St. Edward State Park. Participants' ages range from 24 to 70, and include physicians, chiropractors, nurses, clergy, therapists, social workers, scientists and business people. The program is interdisciplinary, the curriculum multifaceted, and powerful new friendships and collegial relationships are built. The program entails 24 graduate level credits, and CEUs may also be available for certain professions; please inquire. Tuition and fees are \$6,400 payable in three quarterly installments. Low interest educational loans available; tax credits may apply. Enrollment is limited to about 25 participants, insuring intimate group learning and time for personal sharing. Priority given to those applying by May 31, 2002; applica-

tions are accepted thereafter, on a space-available basis. For application packet, call 425.602.3307. Visit our website: www.bastyr.edu under "Certificates." Public information meetings monthly.

University of Washington, CNE, Contact Info

Sheila Keener, BSN, RN, Continuing Nursing Education, University of Washington, Box 357260, Seattle, WA 98195-7260, 206.543.1047, fax: 206.543.6953, web: uwcne.org

Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space-available basis. Position Available Ads & Continuing Education Announcements of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, and greater than 130 words are \$105. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75. Ad Inserts are \$540 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to *ARNP Care*, 10024 SE 240th St, #102, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.480.0002. Email care@nurse.net.

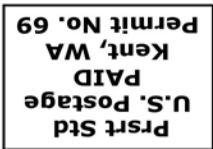
Healthy Humor

Q: What has four legs, is big, green, fuzzy, and if it fell out of a tree would kill you?
A: A pool table.

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