



ASPAN

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Message from the President

Circle of Influence: Together We will be Great

May/June 2003

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ASPAN President 2003-2004

"Alone we can do little, together we can do everything". For me, these words of Helen Keller define the essence of ASPAN.

We, as an organization, can bring together the ideas and passions of many to create a vision, define a mission and, effectively, impact the destiny of our profession, not merely our specialty but the entire profession of nursing. ASPAN is the link for each of us to be an integral part of how the future of nursing will evolve as we acknowledge the "graying" of the profession, the decreased numbers of individuals choosing nursing and the challenging work environment we face everyday. This link requires a leadership team that is visionary and proactive in positioning ASPAN "at the table" while maintaining solid communication with our components. This communication will provide the information from the membership needed for making the important decisions that will best define our profession. Together we can continue to position ASPAN as an influential force in the nursing arena.

The vision for ASPAN is to be the most successful membership organization shaping tomorrow's definition of perianesthesia nursing and the organization that every perianesthesia nurse seeks to join. This vision must become our reality; our initiative for the journey toward influencing the future of our specialty. We must participate in endeavors that creatively promote excellence in perianesthesia nursing through strong standards, proactive positions statements and innovative education.

We must be aggressive in expanding ASPAN's efforts for defining practice through evidence-based research. Great strides have been realized through the publication of the Thermoregulation Guideline and pending publication of the Guidelines on Pain and Comfort. This year we will have a Strategic Work Team (SWT) charged with developing an Evidence Based Model that will enable ASPAN to expand efforts for defining practice through a scientific approach.

ASPAN is our influential force in the nursing arena and is strategically positioned to continue to meet the demands of the times. Past achievements and goals have led the way to our present and future growth and development. We will move forward to assure we are in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time. Our influence becomes reality as our collective voice is heard when the bargaining takes place.

The grass roots members are the future of this organization; and strong components mean an ever-stronger ASPAN. You are the future of ASPAN and what happens in our components directly affects our professionalism, effectiveness and strength of membership. The growth and development of each member should be just as important as that of the association. You have a voice in the decisions being made. You need to be involved. With your support, your ideas and your involvement, together we can assure ASPAN is the organization all perianesthesia nurses seek to join. Together our efforts will expand ASPAN's Circle of Influence and enable us to champion the change that makes the difference for ASPAN members, our patients and the public.