



# GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT

A C A D E M Y

GNSA



Graduate Nursing  
Student Academy



American Association of Colleges of Nursing

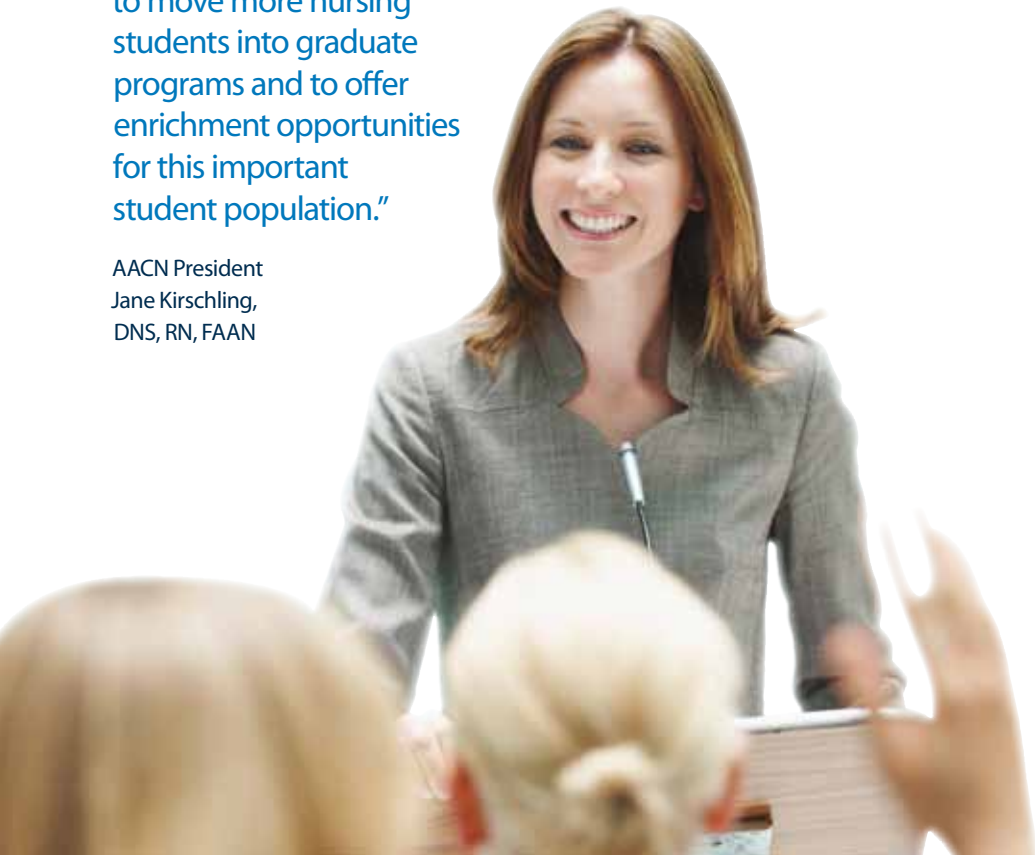
ADVANCING HIGHER EDUCATION IN NURSING

## ***Welcome to the Graduate Nursing Student Academy (GNSA)***

**T**he American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has launched the new Graduate Nursing Student Academy (GNSA) to provide high value programs, services, and resources to nursing students enrolled in master's and doctoral programs. Through the GNSA, AACN will focus on meeting the professional development needs of graduate nursing students who are preparing for careers as faculty members, researchers, advanced practice registered nurses, clinical nurse leaders, policy experts, and healthcare administrators, among other roles.

“Preparing the next generation of nurses to lead change and foster innovation in academic, research, and practice settings is a priority for the association. AACN stands ready to leverage its resources and work collaboratively with stakeholders to move more nursing students into graduate programs and to offer enrichment opportunities for this important student population.”

AACN President  
Jane Kirschling,  
DNS, RN, FAAN



## ***Meeting Student Needs***

Currently, more than 110,000 graduate nursing students are enrolled at schools nationwide, including 14,000 students pursuing doctoral degrees. Within this growing population, AACN has a strong interest in providing services to students in master's and doctoral programs as these individuals are poised to assume leadership roles within the profession.

AACN has a long history of providing resources and guidance to students enrolled in member schools of nursing. This support manifests in the form of resource sharing, continuing education, funding support, and advocacy engagement, among other ways. Through the GNSA, AACN will capitalize on our existing student services and develop new programs based on assessed needs.



## ***GNSA Programs and Services***

Students who join the GNSA may take advantage of AACN's full range of student services and resources, including:

- **Career Resources:** GNSA members will have access to new guides and resources designed to help you transition into the workforce, including tips on interviewing and resume writing, career profiles, and insider advice on securing your first professional role.
- **Webinar Series:** Beginning in 2013, AACN will offer a Webinar series tailored to graduate nursing student interests, including sessions on career horizons in nursing, leadership development, grant-writing, getting published, and securing research funding.
- **Leadership Opportunities:** AACN is forming a Leadership Council to engage students directly in shaping the programs and services offered by the GNSA. AACN also is looking to identify a GNSA Liaison at each school of nursing who can share news and information about the Academy with fellow students from their home institution.



- **Student Resources:** With a focus on ensuring student success, GNSA members will receive resources and information to help you excel in your graduate programs, including guidance on dissertations and capstone projects, strategies for balancing school and life priorities, and advice on post-doctoral study, in addition to other resources.
- **Online Collaboration Community:** Exclusively for students in master's and doctoral nursing programs, this Web-based discussion forum will connect students from schools nationwide and serve as a platform for starting conversations and sharing experiences.
- **Career Opportunities:** AACN is working with our partner AfterCollege to develop the Graduate Nursing Career Network to showcase available job opportunities for new nursing graduates with master's and doctoral level preparation.
- **Policy Engagement:** Sharpen the skills needed to become an effective advocate for healthcare policy issues at the national and state levels by participating in AACN's grassroots advocacy network, the annual Student Policy Summit, and AACN's internship opportunities.
- **Information Sharing:** Students joining the GNSA will have the option of receiving their choice of AACN publications that feature regular updates on upcoming Webinars, open faculty positions, scholarship and research funding opportunities, continuing education offerings, grassroots advocacy events, and the latest news and information related to professional nursing education.

## About AACN

The **American Association of Colleges of Nursing** (AACN) is the national voice for university and four-year college education programs in nursing. Representing more than 700 member schools of nursing at public and private institutions nationwide, AACN's educational, research, governmental advocacy, data collection, publications, and other programs work to establish quality standards for bachelor's- and graduate-degree nursing education, assist deans and directors to implement those standards, influence the nursing profession to improve health care, and promote public support of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education, research, and practice.

[www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu)



## ***Joining GNSA***

Membership in the GNSA is free and open to all master's and doctoral students enrolled in AACN member institutions. To join the Academy, students will need to register online and let us know what specific resources, Webinar topics, and services will meet your needs.

**Register now at**  
**<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/students/gnsa>.**

Find out more about the GNSA and AACN's programs and resources for graduate nursing students by visiting  
**<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/students/gnsa>.**



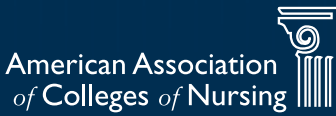
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**#GNSA**

For more information, contact  
**[GNSA@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:GNSA@aacn.nche.edu).**





American Association  
*of Colleges of Nursing*

One Dupont Circle, Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-463-6930

[www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu)