Nomination/Election for Officers

We need to fill officer vacancies! Our former chairperson Darby Kemper has left Harney District Hospital (HDH), and the vice chair position remains unfilled. Our bylaws require a special election if both positions are unfilled. If you are interested in running for chair or vice chair, please complete the form below and submit it no later than March 23, 2015.

Three ways to return your nomination/consent to serve form:

1. May be given to secretary Elaine Wulff
2. Mail to Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) (18765 SW Boone’s Ferry Road #200, Tualatin OR 97062)
3. Fax to 503-293-0013 Attn: Alison Hamway

Form must be received no later than 5 p.m., March 23, 2015.

If you want to nominate another member, please be sure to obtain the nominees written signature that they are willing to run for office. Only ONA members in good standing are eligible to serve as officers.

If there is more than one candidate for office, elections will be held for the negotiating team in a secret ballot election:

April 9, 6-8 p.m.
downstairs conference room

NOMINATION/CONSENT TO RUN AND SERVE

Positions Available: Chairperson & Vice Chairperson (to fill vacancy)

If nominated, I consent to run and, if elected, I consent to serve.

I nominate the following nurse for the following position: __________________________

(Name)________________________

Below is the nominee’s signature indicating their willingness to serve if elected. Use additional signature lines if additional positions are nominated. (Sorry, unsigned consent forms cannot be accepted)
Protect Your License, Protect Yourself!

Should nurses and nursing students carry their own personal liability insurance policy? The answer is an unequivocal yes. Unfortunately, a contrary opinion is apparently being voiced by employers, faculty and nurses themselves. You carry insurance to protect your home, your car and your health. Why not your career? Here are the reasons:

1. First, a common assumption is that your employer will cover any incident. Technically, an employer is responsible for the acts of its staff. However, the employer's interest is not necessarily consistent with protecting you individually. Should there be a lawsuit or threatened suit, your best protection is to have your own personal legal representation. Your own attorney can prepare you for a deposition, represent you in a deposition and, most importantly, represent you in any settlement and determination of fault.

2. Second, your employer's policy does not represent you in an Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) investigation. In fact, it could be your employer who makes the complaint to the OSBN about an alleged violation of law. The OSBN must investigate each complaint it receives and, even if the complaint is dismissed, there are costs to you. The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) recommends that all nurses obtain legal representation before responding to a letter from the OSBN related to a complaint. You are much more likely to receive a complaint from the OSBN than to be named in a lawsuit.

3. Third, you are always a nurse. You may render first aid or advise a family member or friend about a health problem. Should any incident arise about these acts, the only protection you have is your own personal insurance.

ONA urges you to obtain coverage from the Nurses Service Organization (NSO). For about $100 you can protect yourself. For example, should you be the subject of an OSBN investigation, you have up to $25,000 in coverage for attorney fees, travel etc.

For more information please go to www.nso.com. If you would like to discuss professional practice issues you may also call Susan King or Connie Miyao at the ONA office 503-293-0011.