

TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVING THE NURSE-PHYSICIAN RELATIONSHIP

SUBMITTED BY: JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

WHEREAS, in some Magnet hospitals, “one fourth to one third of the nurses reported having neutral or negative nurse/physician relationships”; and

WHEREAS, poor collaboration negatively affects “patient and family satisfaction, patient safety and outcomes, professional staff satisfaction, nurse retention and cost”; and

WHEREAS, improved patient care, nurse job satisfaction, and low turnover are all products of good nurse-physician relationships; and

WHEREAS, “The Institute of Medicine [IOM] points to ‘a[n] historical lack of interprofessional cooperation’ as one of the...barriers to safety in hospitals”; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Commission’s second National Patient Safety Goal for 2007 is to “improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers”; and

WHEREAS, “evidence documenting differing perceptions about the importance and effectiveness of nurse-physician collaboration among nurses, physicians and healthcare executives points to an imperative that effective methods be developed to improve working relationships between nurses and physicians”; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) promote the establishment of positive nurse-physician relationships built on trust and mutual respect; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA encourage its constituents to improve their own relationships with physicians and other members of the healthcare team through the use of skilled communication and true collaboration; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA advocate for the education of nursing students, as well as medical students, in the art of communication, collaboration, and relationship building techniques; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA encourage the publication of information regarding establishing and maintaining positive nurse-physician relationships in *Imprint* and other nursing periodicals, if feasible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the American Organization of Nurse Executives, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Joint Commission, the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, the American Medical Student Association, the Student Health Alliance, The American Osteopathic Association, and all others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.