

Congratulations to Dr. Jane Neese

July 2017 spotlight is on Dr. Jane Neese, North Carolina, who is also a member of the ISPN Nominating Committee.

Please tell us about yourself

Currently, I am the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Health and Human Services at the University of North Carolina Charlotte where I started my academic career in 1994. I've been an academic administrator since 2002 and absolutely have utilized my psychiatric liaison clinical nurse specialist skills on a daily, if not hourly, basis. I can't imagine not having some background in psychology, psychiatry, etc. to do this job. As you can imagine, all that individual therapy practice comes in handy when dealing with distraught students, faculty or staff and the group therapy skills come into play in working on the multitude of committees. I have been on so many university and college committees that the Chancellor appointed me to lead and coordinate commencement! The old phrase, "no good deed goes unpunished", is rampant in academia. Prior to becoming an administrator, I taught undergraduate and graduate psychiatric nursing courses as well as clinical and practicum - thoroughly enjoyed teaching. In fact, I enjoyed teaching so much that I currently teach a freshmen college success class (similar to many freshmen orientation classes). It really is a blast! During my tenure as faculty, I received several grants related to older adults and online education as well as mentored faculty and students - I still mentor folks now. I'm also a CCNE accreditor, which has been fascinating - the variety and depth of nursing programs across the country.

On a personal level, I've been married for 29 years and have two children; a son who is 25 years old and a daughter who is 22 years old. Now that my children are "out of the house", I've returned to playing competitive tennis in USTA leagues. This year my 40+ and 55+ USTA Ladies teams made it to the state playoffs! My husband and I just rebuilt my family house at Edisto Beach, SC where you'll find us every month. I walk the beach looking for shells as he stands in the surf catching fish.

Tell us about your experience with ISPN

Quite frankly, I've grown up in ISPN. When I was a fledgling Psychiatric Liaison CNS, I met Peggy Dulaney and we started going to conferences together related to our role - that was in 1987. I was part of the original group that wrote The Standards of Psychiatric Consultation - Liaison Nursing in 1990 and was a charter member of the International Society of Psychiatric Consultation Liaison Nurses in 1990. When I went to doctoral school, I discovered the Society for Education and Research in Psychiatric - Mental Health Nursing (SERPN), where I presented most of my research papers. And, subsequently, I've been an ISPN member at its inception. I've served on numerous committees within ISPCLN, SERPN and ISPN over the years and thoroughly enjoyed all getting to know and learn from so many bright, exciting professionals.

Please describe your vision for ISPN over the next 5 years

ISPN has worked diligently in garnering international members and we really need to continue to increase our international membership, but also our domestic membership. ISPN does represent advanced practice, education and research in all areas of psychiatric mental health nursing. We absolutely must cultivate the young psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners, DNPs, and PhDs, whom we are graduating throughout the country to be part of our organization.

Is there anything else you would like members to know?

As most members know, you learn a lot from your peers at conferences not only about professional content, but also about navigation in different areas in your life. I know that my ISPN colleagues are my friends, confidants, and inspiration in many areas in my life... and hope new members will feel the same.

(Posted 7/7/17)