Scholarship Awarded

Through the generous support of Janssen Medical Affairs, LLC, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) provides Scholarships for graduate nursing students to attend the APNA Annual Conference, October 15-18, 2008, in Minneapolis, MN. Through this innovative program, graduate nursing students who are pursuing an advanced degree with an emphasis in psychiatric mental-health nursing will be selected.

The 2008 APNA-Janssen Graduate Student Scholarship Program offers 15 outstanding graduate nursing students who are interested in developing a career in psychiatric mental health nursing, an opportunity to learn about nursing leadership in this area of nursing specialty. When students can learn about the expanding services and complex roles that psychiatric mental health nurses play in meeting the needs of society, they can better prepare themselves to take on the challenges of this growing specialty area. By attending the APNA conference, students gain an appreciation for the treatment modalities, concepts and philosophy of care, pharmacological treatments, and trends and issues in the care of people with psychiatric mental-health needs. Students also meet leaders in the specialty and can network with nurses and students from around the nation. The APNA-Janssen Graduate Student Scholarship recipients will also work with an APNA faculty mentor to help guide their conference experience and to encourage a post-conference professional mentorship.

The program complements a graduate student’s nursing education. The 2008 APNA-Janssen Student Scholarship Program focuses on four outcomes:

- increase understanding of the role of the advanced practice psychiatric mental health nurse;
- expand concepts related to the role and function of professional nursing organizations;
- empower students to be involved in patient and nurse advocacy; and
- participate in a mentor-protégé developmental relationship.

The APNA-Janssen Student Scholarship Program includes all travel and lodging expenses to attend the APNA Conference in Minneapolis, MN as well as a stipend for meals and the registration fees for the entire convention. In addition, winners will receive one year complimentary membership in the APNA.

This year Michael O’Connor a graduate student in UML’s Psychiatric Mental Health Program was selected as a recipient of the scholarship. Michael has been a nurse for several years with a homeless population and is committed to providing excellent care for this underserved population. Congratulations Michael!!!!