



National Nurses Week  
May 6 – 12, 2010

Bruce Humphreys, RN, BSN  
President  
Oregon Nurses Association  
18765 SW Boones Ferry Road, Suite 200  
Tualatin, OR 97062

May 6, 2010

Dear Oregon Nursing Students,

As you prepare to enter the profession of nursing, I offer my congratulations and encouragement. You have chosen to enter the health care field at a time of great opportunity but also great challenge.

Just a couple of years ago, finding the first position was simply a matter of making a choice of where to practice. Now, I know well the difficulties that new graduates are encountering in the job market. While this situation is not what any of us would want, remember that the nursing shortage is real and is only temporarily eased by the current economy. You are going to be critical to health care delivery in our current and future systems.

Nursing has both a tremendous opportunity and responsibility for the health of our population and our health care delivery system. You will be entering practice at a time when the attention of the nation is focused on health and health care. What better time for nurses to step forward and shape the future.

Again, congratulations on choosing nursing. I will look forward to your leadership in the profession and the Oregon Nurses Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Humphreys". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Bruce Humphreys RN, BSN  
President, Oregon Nurses Association

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*Representing more than 12,000 nurses, ONA is the state's oldest and largest nursing organization and the largest health care union in the state. It advocates for the profession of nursing and quality patient care through education, labor organization and advocacy. May 6 – 12, 2010 is National Nurses Week, celebrating the profession of nursing and the contributions of America's more than 3.1 million nurses.*