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Editor's Note

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Walters: Editor's Note

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The health care **delivery** system in the United States is constantly involved in the midst **of** an ever-changing environment. Laws, curriculum, -methods **of** instruction, type of programs, accountability regarding learning styles, and leadership, all have quite an impact on our educational **system**.

In this issue Baker and Washburn addressed the issues, concerns, and results of the Illinois Nursing Act of **1987** and stated there is a growing need **for** health care personnel at all levels of practice. A career ladder is also suggested for those who desire further education.

Schira and Syre reported that educators are challenged each day with new responsibilities which include knowledge of the new law **P.L. 100-203**. The v also suggested the importance of knowing about curriculum trends in health occupations education as well as marketing materials and programs that are developed.

In response to recent cost containment pressures due to restructuring of health reimbursement and shifts in patient care, hospitals have begun to focus on the efficiency of their operations and have generated interest in health care workers who are able to perform more than one function. Thus, **Akrovd** has presented a curricula model that enables students to become multi-skilled within radiological science.

Thompson revealed why and how the cooperative method of instruction can be used in health occupations programs to expand and improve experiential learning opportunities. Different types of cooperative education are explained, and examples are given for cooperative education programs offered **at** the secondary and **postsecondary** levels.

Applying knowledge of student learning styles has been one response for educational accountability. Gable has responded to this need by conducting a **study** to **identify** the preferences **for** processing information and decision making. Findings indicated significant differences existed in students in various health occupations training programs and has provided recommendations regarding instructional design, teacher-student interaction in the learning process, and career counseling.

Research has indicated that leadership is the number one national need in America today, Recognizing and understanding that leadership behavior appears to involve a combination **of** skills and certain personality traits provided the rationale for Walters, **Wilmoth** and **Pitts** to **study** **personality** traits of currently elected high school **HOSA** officers serving in leadership positions and who are the potential leaders of the future.

In addition, new books and other media provide health care personnel with current and updated procedures. Richards has reviewed one of the latest books on a guide to quality care in intravenous therapy.

There has never been a better time or a greater need for all health care forces to join together in an effort to keep abreast of all the current trends and changes in health care and technology as today. Excellence is essential and necessary.

Norma J. Walters
Editor