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Editor's Note

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Walters: Editor's Note

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To function effectively in today's complex health care system, health care professionals need a broad knowledge base and mastery of intervention skills to be able to deliver high quality, teaching and clinical programs. However, the key component is the ability to process information and to make decisions. Research has shown that the most influential factors in decision making are experience and knowledge. This knowledge can be expanded through participation in reading or by writing in our Journal.

In the field of research, the old saying, "What ~~you see~~ ^{you} get" should probably be reworded as "How you look for something determines what **you find.**" One should always bear in mind that the topic of a study has been defined and measured in a particular way. Readers should read the research, synthesize the information and evaluate for applicability to other situations or possibly their own health occupations program.

Haire-Joshu, **Connell**, and **Barzalai** wrote about the need for work site health promotion programs, developed and implemented by multidisciplinary health care professionals. They also revealed that the skills health professionals apply for their successful implementation, provide educational direction to the development of health occupations programs.

Ebrite examined the conflict-handling mode of health occupations teachers, health agency staff development personnel and nursing supervisors. She concluded that assertiveness training could assist them to deal with personnel or student conflicts.

Conflict, many times may be inevitable in situations, such as in our present society regarding the "entry in nursing practice legislation" which essentially would close the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program. **Omvig**, Kelly and Lund studied perceptions of employers in Kentucky regarding their staffing needs and reported that there exists a need for LPNs now and in the future, that they are performing adequately on the job and that health care costs would increase if LPN programs were eliminated. Petersen and Richards explored the current and projected staffing patterns for nursing personnel in Iowa. Based on analysis of data, recommendations suggested increased efforts in marketing and recruiting for the LPN and registered nurse programs.

Walters, **Wilmoth** and **Pitts** examined a leadership questionnaire to develop factor dimensions in order to test specific patterns of leadership attributes for nursing students. The authors recommended future studies be conducted with younger students such as high school health occupations students in possibly **pre-post** experimental designs incorporated into leadership development workshops.

Richards reviewed a book which explains the disease process, basic terminology, and commonly occurring diseases for students entering the health field at any level.

Of all the forces that have shaped and continue to shape American culture and character, none is broader or less subtle than what we call knowledge. That knowledge, in part, could be acquired through the Journal.

Norma J. Walters
Editor

