

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING



May 2011

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April Information Session Held in Harrisburg

The State Board of Nursing and board chair Dr. Joseph Napolitano welcomed more than 150 nurses and nursing students to the C. Ted Lick Wildwood Conference Center at the Harrisburg Area Community College on April 4. The day-long information session featured speakers and topics ranging from substance dependence to continuing education.



Dr. Napolitano welcomes attendees.

Dr. John D. Massella of California University of Pennsylvania opened with an honest and engaging presentation on the dangers of substance dependence, both for patients and health care professionals. He helped define and describe the many faces of substance dependence and just how prevalent it can be in the health care profession.



Dr. Massella presents facts about substance dependence.

Kevin Knipe, Manager of the Professional Health Monitoring Program, and Kathie Simpson, Executive Director of Operations for the Pennsylvania Nurse Peer Assistance Program (PNAP), explained the options that are available to help nurses who are dealing with substance dependence. PNAP promotes early identification of impaired nurses by establishing a method for nurses to refer themselves to the program in a matter that is safe, supportive and confidential. The program assists the participant to document their rehabilitative efforts and coordinates their return to practice.

In the afternoon, attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the licensure application process, continuing education and board regulations.

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