

Celebration of 2001 Fellow

Lorna Schumann

Introduction

Dr Schumann is a family nurse practitioner who is also certified as an emergency nurse practitioner. She is an expert clinician and educator., She has vast experience leading missionary trips to multiple international locations. She is also on the board of the certification commission and has been involved in all aspects of certification for AANP. She has been a leader in the development of the International Council of Nurses Advanced Practice Nursing Network and has taught nurse practitioners internationally.

Abstract

In this interview Dr Schumann discusses the importance for nurse practitioners to obtain full practice authority in the future. As a fellow she was inspired to work with scholars, researchers and clinicians as part of a team She describes being inspired to volunteer for more committees. Her advise for nurse practitioners is to strive for excellence in scholarship, practice and policy.

Short Bio

Dr. Schumann is a family nurse practitioner who is also a certified emergency nurse practitioner. She lives and works in the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho area, where she has resided since moving east from California in 1980. Schumann is actively involved in a num- ber of volunteer activities, and when interviewed had just returned from a mission trip to Guatemala. She was still recovering from respiratory problems caused by a massive recent volcanic eruption in that country. While on the mission trip, Schumann and her medical team encountered a population that was very deprived. They cared for 1700 individuals in six days in the country. She was able to go to the volcano encampment area, where there was still evidence of the deaths caused by the eruption.

She is a member of the Union Gospel mission, a non- denominational group that works to rehabilitate women and children who have been abused as well as individuals with substance use problems. She is also a member of the medical reserve corps and participates in volunteer activities associated with the American Red Cross including health screenings and disaster response. Schumann enjoys boating and wakeboarding in her spare me.

Keywords

Advanced practice nursing, nurse practitioner, international missions, leadership

Lorna Schumann AANP Oral History Project



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KC: How did you feel when you were notified that you were selected as a Fellow?

LS: I was in the second cohort (2001) of individuals accepted into the Fellows. Jan Towers was my sponsor. I feel very honored to be part of the organization.

KC: What has changed since you became a fellow?

LS: Many more highly qualified Fellows have been added to the organization over the last 17 years. It is amazing to see their bios and the contributions they have given to the profession.

KC: What were your hopes for the fellowship?

LS: My hopes were to improve NP practice and outcomes. I was very hopeful that all states would get on board with full-practice authority. Living in Idaho, a full-practice state has made me very thankful of what we have been able to do to improve patient outcomes.

KC: How did being in the Fellowship help you think outside of the box?

L.S. Working with creative scholars and researchers who are willing to share ideas and work as a team has been a very positive experience. It motivates me to try harder and volunteer for more projects.

KC: What advice do you have for the present Fellows?

LS: Strive for excellence in scholarship, practice and policy. Continue to move toward independent practice in all states and internationally.

KC: Is there anything you would like to share with the fellows?

LS: Stay involved, serve on committees and attend the meetings. It takes a community of highly motivated scholars to move the profession forward.

KC: What do you see are the pivotal moments in the past years?

LS: In the early years, we were short on funding and probably still are to some extent. I was elected as Treasurer for the organization and from the beginning of my term until I completed the second term, we made great strides in getting organized and also in developing policies. Over the years, we have made several modifications to improve the workload and process for the Fellows selection committee. The outcomes from the work groups have also helped to make more people aware of what the Fellows group is doing.

KC: Have you been able to impact the nurse practitioner movement?

LS: I think so, but not as much as what I had originally hoped to.

KC: Is there anything you would change if you had it to do over again?

LS: I think that the Fellows should promote themselves more as a group.

KC: What advice would you give to yourself in 2001?

LS: In 2001, I was just happy to be selected.

KC: How would you like to be remembered?

LS: As someone who strove for excellence in the profession.

KC: What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?

LS: As a new provider, take the first two to three years developing your practice. When opportunities occur to be involved at the local, state, national and international level arise, take those opportunities to expand your career. In the applicant files that I have reviewed over the years of being on the selection committee, those individuals who have selected a trajectory and followed it, appear to be making the greatest strides toward excellence in practice, research, scholarship, community involvement and policy.

KC: What do you see in the future?

LS: I see or am ever so hopeful that all states will have independent practice. I see individuals who are working toward that goal.