

TOPIC: **IN SUPPORT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY OF NURSING STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM AND CLINICAL SETTING**

SUBMITTED BY: **Student Nurses' Association of Christ College
Cincinnati, OH**

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WHEREAS, Quality patient care demands that nurses practice with the highest levels of honesty and integrity (McClung); and

WHEREAS, A 2014 study found that 65% of participants admitted to cheating in the classroom setting and 54% admitted to cheating in the clinical setting (Krueger); and

WHEREAS, Academic dishonesty in the classroom includes plagiarizing, completing individual assignments in groups, receiving exams answers from other students, and copying answers during exams (Kruger); and

WHEREAS, Students who are academically dishonest in the classroom are more likely to engage in dishonest behaviors in the clinical setting (Kreuger); and

WHEREAS, Dishonest behaviors interfere with necessary learning and development of essential critical judgment skills, and have the potential to negatively affect patient care and safety (McClung); and

WHEREAS, Academic dishonesty in the clinical setting includes falsification of patient data, such as vital signs or assessments, alteration of charts, or failure to report a mistake such as a medication error or breaking sterile field (Klocko); and

WHEREAS, Faculty and administrators in schools of nursing perceive academic dishonesty to be an indicator of future unethical professional behavior (Klocko); and

WHEREAS, To become safe practitioners, nursing students must be encouraged to adopt academic and professional integrity behaviors (Moore); and

WHEREAS, Nursing educators should continually educate students on the critical importance of the data they are collecting, the interventions they are performing, and the patients' dependency on their most ethical and honest behavior (Krueger); therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ohio Student Nurses' Association (OhSNA) acknowledge and address the prevalence of academic dishonesty within the student nurse population as perpetuated by the National Student Nurses' Association Code of Ethics; and be it further

RESOLVED, that OhSNA encourages accredited nursing programs in Ohio to foster a culture of academic integrity rather than relying on written policy; and be it further

RESOLVED, that OhSNA include a breakout session about this topic at the next Ohio Convention, if feasible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that OhSNA send a copy of this resolution to all 46 accredited BSN programs in the state of Ohio and all others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.