

A Tribute to Dr. Rosalee (Roz) Seymour

Dr. Dee McGonigle

A tribute to a dear friend and OJNI colleague: Dr. Rosalee (Roz) Seymour

Dr. Roz Seymour was one of the first members of the editorial board for the journal and has worked tirelessly through the years helping OJNI evolve! She even accepted the first spot on the journal's Board of Directors representing the editorial team.

Roz is a dear friend and I am so proud to know and work with her! She has helped forge the path for nursing informatics in the nursing profession. Her students and colleagues respect and admire her knowledge, skills and experience.

Roz says that she has retired, but if we need her, she never refuses to help. She continues to serve the journal. What an asset she is to nursing informatics and the nursing profession.

OJNI has given me many rewards over the years, but none so great as connecting me with Roz. I cannot say enough about this nursing legend who I consider a dear friend!

Sincerely,
Dee

What You Might Ask

by Roz Seymour

What you might ask, does a retired faculty member/journal editor/informatics nurse/psych-mental health nurse do with her life? I will tell you. This one says yes only to those things she wants to do. What does a retired faculty member want to do? This one wants to remain knowledgeable in her areas of expertise, which are: teaching and learning; conducting research critiques; reviewing on a variety of topics; and mentoring faculty and students.

As the editor in charge of education on the Online Journal of Nursing Informatics I continued in an editor role for about the first year and then I did say no to continuation on the Board of OJNI and as an editor in charge. I found I did not want to be in charge of anything. So I began to be an article reviewer, which was the first job I held with the journal. I have had a long and wonderful association with Dee McGonigle and the journal and its other editors and board members. We have grown together as a team and put out a darn decent informatics journal.

Along with the things I continue to be willing to do are that I also review articles for two other journals and one text book company. Only one of these is work for hire the others are volunteer. I also review student papers of all kinds. I reviewed a journalism research paper and an education paper just recently.

I mentor two faculty members, also gratis. We meet once a month now but met once a week for the first two year after I retired. We discuss how to write and how to submit and have papers accepted for presentation, we discuss research and they have conducted one study and are

beginning number two; we discuss how to teach and so they have revised a communications course using DVDs and many other creative strategies have been incorporated into their teaching of small and large classes. I continue to mentor students who keep in touch with me about work, papers, careers, and lives. One thing that happens when you retire is that requests for your time are too numerous to count so learning to say no and mean it is very important. I did do that but I also said yes to my church where I take Bible Study, sing in the choir, and help sponsor persons who want to become Catholics through the RCIA process.

The next thing I did is spend more time with friends. I play cards twice a week, meet for lunch once a month, have coffee every Tuesday and Wednesday and I started a book club which (since it contains non-retired faculty as members) meets every 3 months. I also took a Spanish language course and voice lessons just to round it all out.

So retirement, what else can I say except, you will know when you are ready (and try to do it then). If you wait you and your students will both suffer. Remember that you still have value as a professional but do not overburden yourself with it. Stay connected to what counts in your life or find new things that count and get connected to them. Continue to grow and achieve and to influence and reach out to help others. Lastly remember to thank those whose shoulders you have stood on to get as far as you got in your career and give back what you can in kind. Thanks for the many opportunities and challenges.

Roz