M3U2: Professional Associations

There are two professional associations that I intend to join in the near future.

The first is the **Florida Nurses Association** (FNA) which has been in existence for over a century. The mission of the Florida Nurses Association is to serve and support all registered nurses through professional development, advocacy and the promotion of excellence in all areas of professional nursing practice. FNA is a constituent of the American Nurses Association. It goes without saying that as an nursing professional membership in my state organization is important and I support the work that the organization does on behalf of my profession.

The second professional organizations that I intend to join is **The Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses** which is the only specialty nursing organization dedicated to the practice of medical-surgical nursing. There are currently over 11,500 members. I have been a Certified Medical Surgical Nurse for 10 years and have always believed in the importance of becoming certified and maintaining my certification. On my medical surgical unit, I am only one of 4 nurses who are currently certified in our specialty.