

# EDITORIAL

*“That the cultural needs of the people  
in the world may be met by nurses  
prepared in transcultural nursing”  
-Leininger*

Omaha, Nebraska  
USA  
June 13, 2004

Dear Transcultural Nursing Society Members and Friends,

I deeply regret that I am unable to be with you for the 30th Annual Transcultural Nursing Society Conference in Alicante, Spain on June 14-16, 2004. Please, be assured that I am truly with you in spirit and wish you a successful conference.

This is the first conference of the Transcultural Nursing Society that I have missed since launching it in 1974. So you must sense my deep regret not to be with all of you. Each year the meetings are great and a big means to be renewed in Transcultural Nursing. Everyone generally has a good time and the experiences tie them over until the next conference.

The historic, multicultural and beautiful town of Alicante is a wonderful place for the Transcultural Nursing Conference. Spain is known for its warmth and hospitality as shown by the special cultural events and places featured at this conference. I have no doubt that this will be long remembered by the participants. The theme of the conference fits Spain's sociocultural context and surely, there will be excellent papers and discussion. The Annual Conferences are always of great interest, an opportunity to renew old friendships and meet new nurses from diverse countries.

The discipline of Transcultural Nursing continues to grow worldwide with more nurses becoming proudly involved. What a blessing to have Transcultural Nursing firmly established as a field of study, research and practice. It is wonderful to

see changes occur in nursing and other health disciplines since the field was started in the early 1960s. Most of all, the consumers of Transcultural Nursing are at last benefiting from receiving culturally competent care and respect for who they are, and for what they do and value.

The discipline of Transcultural Nursing and its practice contribute greatly to today's health care.

Keep the spirit and the goals of Transcultural Nursing alive. Enjoy the convention and the kind hospitality of the nurses and people of Alicante as well as the beautiful country and city. My thoughts and good wishes are with you all. My hope and prayers for a very successful event.

*Most sincerely,  
Madeleine Leininger  
Founder, Transcultural Nursing Society*

Queridos compañeros,

Lamento profundamente no poder compartir con vosotros este acontecimiento en Alicante. Tened por seguro que os acompaño en espíritu y os deseo lo mejor para estos días.

Esta es la primera conferencia de la Transcultural Nursing Society a la que no asisto desde 1974; podéis imaginar mi pesar por no estar ahí. Cada vez la calidad de los encuentros ha ido a más, y la grata experiencia ha hecho que volviéramos a reunirnos año tras año.

La hermosa ciudad de Alicante, con su historia y multiculturalidad, es el lugar ideal para la celebración de este evento. España es famosa por su hospitalidad y calor humano, y no me cabe la menor duda de que estos días permanecerán en la memoria de todos. El tema de la conferencia se adapta perfectamente al contexto sociocultural español actual, y estoy segura de que las exposiciones y debates serán sumamente enriquecedores, además de proporcionar una oportunidad para retomar viejas amistades e iniciar otras nuevas con profesionales de todo el mundo.

La Enfermería Transcultural como disciplina continúa creciendo y cada vez son más las enfermeras implicadas en ella como campo de estudio, investigación y práctica asistencial. Es maravilloso apreciar los cambios acontecidos desde sus inicios en los años 60. Y lo más importante, los beneficiarios de la Enfermería Transcultural continúan recibiendo cuidados culturalmente competentes en respeto a su individualidad y a sus valores. Es la gran aportación de la Enfermería Transcultural al cuidado de la salud.

Es mi deseo que mantengáis vivo el espíritu de la Enfermería Transcultural, y que disfrutéis de este acontecimiento y de la hospitalidad de esta bella ciudad. Mi pensamiento y mis oraciones están con vosotros.

*Un saludo,  
Madeleine Leininger  
Fundadora de la Transcultural Nursing  
Society*