How to use Twitter for submitting questions and follow information about the APU Nursing Research Symposium throughout the year

Twitter is a social networking tool that allows individuals and organizations to distribute information via short messages referred to as "tweets" to anyone who has signed up for a Twitter account and chosen to "follow", or view their tweets. Twitter is an online program or app that is most commonly accessed via an individual's smartphone or other mobile device such as a web-connected tablet or iPad, although the program can also be accessed from any computer at www.twitter.com. The APU Nursing Research Symposium uses Twitter as a communication tool to allow an ongoing discussion forum in real-time during the event, and as a means of submitting questions to speakers during question and answer periods. We invite all individuals attending this year's conference to use their Twitter accounts to participate along during the symposium.

For the symposium, the hashtag is "#nursym".

**To ask a question or make a comment during the event,
simply type your twitter message, and include #nursym at the end of the question.**

How to create a Twitter account:

- From any computer, go to www.twitter.com, and sign up for a Twitter account. You will be asked to give a desired user name, and create a password to access the program.

How to download Twitter on your Android phone or tablet; or, an iPhone or iPad:

- If you use an Android-based phone or table, got to the Google Play website or app on your phone, and simply search for Twitter. Download the app, and logon using your Twitter ID and password

Once you have signed up for a Twitter account:

- Open your app on your phone, and follow the icon that asks you to "follow" a Twitter user. Then, search for the user "APU_SON". Once this is selected, you will be "following" and receiving tweets about the symposium

How to participate and submit questions during the symposium:

Twitter organizes tweets using what are referred to as "hashtags." Hashtags are a community-driven convention for adding additional context to your tweets. They are a form of metadata and very similar to tags, as used on social networking sites and blogs. Hashtags are added inline to a post by prefixing a word with a hash symbol: #hashtag.

For the symposium, the hashtag is "#nursym".
To ask a question or make a comment during the event,
simply type your twitter message, and include #nursym at the end of the question.

Users can see all tweets collated through use of a hashtag in a number of ways:
- Using the hashtags site e.g. http://hashtags.org/tag/iwmw2009/
- Running a Twitter search for a term and then following that RSS feed.
- Using a relevant application such as "Twemes" or "Twitterfall".