



ACNL in Action:

Nurse Leaders Making a Difference!

Association of California Nurse Leaders

March 2018

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To celebrate our 40th year as *the* professional organization for California's nurse leaders, ACNL presented an exceptional 2018 conference – featuring an in-depth exploration of the issues and opportunities nurse leaders face in today's rapidly changing health care environment.

Special thanks to ACNL's Annual Program Committee and staff for their work in making the Conference, February 4-7 at the Monterey Conference Center, a huge success. Evaluations and feedback from the more than 450 nurse leaders and 100+ industry partners in attendance has been very positive. Many said it was the best program yet!

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A major highlight of the Conference was an inspirational presentation by ACNL CEO Patricia McFarland recapping the past 40 years of nurse leadership in California. Many of ACNL's past presidents were on hand to participate in the event and receive recognition for their achievements. As part of the celebration, McFarland was honored as she retired as ACNL's CEO after 23 years of distinguished service to our organization. In recognition of her accomplishments over the years, McFarland was given the title of *CEO Emeritus*. (See page 3 to learn more about ACNL's new CEO Kim Tomasi).

Use the links below to access more information about ACNL's 40-year history:

[ACNL Commemorative Publication Celebrating 40 Years of Nurse Leadership](#)

[Video: ACNL Celebrates 40 Years](#)

[View Photos from ACNL 2018 Conference](#)

Thank you to our 2018 sponsors for your support of ACNL's Conference and our organization:

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[View Complete List of ACNL 2018 Conference Sponsors](#)

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Meet ACNL's New CEO: Kim Tomasi



Kim Tomasi, MSN, RN, is ACNL's new Chief Executive Officer, a role which also includes serving as Executive Officer for the California Nursing Students Association (CNSA) and the California Association of Colleges Nursing (CACN).

"It is an honor to be ACNL's CEO," Tomasi said. "I'm looking forward to working with ACNL's Board of Directors, committees and members to continue the important work of nurse leaders in California."

An experienced nurse executive, Tomasi has extensive expertise in nursing practice, healthcare administration and management/leadership development. Prior to joining ACNL as CEO, Tomasi was Deputy Director of Nursing at San Joaquin General Hospital in French Camp, California. Her areas of responsibility included administrative oversight of the Intensive Care Unit, Telemetry Unit, Medical/Surgical Units, Emergency Department, Dialysis, Nursing Education, Continuum of Care Department, Emergency Preparedness Planning, and the Sexual Assault Forensics Examiner (SAFE) program. During her tenure at San Joaquin General, Tomasi oversaw the development of new programs and compression of programs to meet changing health care needs and priorities. She also led strategic planning, training and change initiatives to improve outcomes. Tomasi has collaborated extensively with leaders from healthcare, education and business on performance and community improvements through program design, partnerships, policy development, business and marketing plans, coaching and team development.

Tomasi holds graduate and baccalaureate degrees in nursing from the University of Phoenix. She has been very involved in community activities in the Stockton area, including serving on multi-disciplinary teams aiding homeless veterans and victims of child and adult abuse, sexual assault and human trafficking. An active member of ACNL, Tomasi recently served on ACNL's Board of Directors, representing the central region. She has also been an active member of ACNL's North Central Chapter, serving as president and secretary. Tomasi can be contacted at: kim@acnl.org.

BRN Supports Moving Forward with Moratorium

The December *ACNL In Action* reported on the Board of Registered Nursing's intention to draft legislation to address the issue of clinical displacement at their February 2018 meeting in Sacramento.

Several ACNL members were present at the February meeting to provide testimony. ACNL's CEO Emeritus Patricia McFarland urged the Board not to move so quickly to a legislative remedy,

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asserting that nursing professionals, working collaboratively with the BRN, can resolve this issue. She further stated that this is an opportunity to examine how and where we prepare future RNs because use of technology and experiences gleaned along the continuum of care will be critical to their success. ACNL member and CNO, Katie Skelton, spoke about the need for communication, collaboration and innovation in resolving this issue. She also addressed several myths regarding Magnet standards as they relate to the educational preparation of staff. Robyn Nelson, Dean, West Coast University, and Alice Martanegara, Dean, Western Governor's University, provided academic perspective on this issue. ACNL, CACN and ANA\C all testified that additional data and information was needed before moving forward with legislation.

At the end of the discussion, the Board approved moving forward with proposed legislation giving Dr. Joseph Morris, BRN Executive Officer, the authority to place a temporary moratorium on nursing school approvals and expansions to address RN student clinical displacement. At this time, there is no bill number assigned to this legislation. However, that does not mean the issue is dead since language related to the moratorium can be amended into an existing bill.

Although the Board supported moving forward with legislation, the Quad Council is continuing with its commitment to resolve this issue through collaboration and communication. The Quad Council is currently drafting a letter to Dr. Morris demonstrating their support for working together to resolve this issue.

Alternative legislation on clinical displacement has been introduced by Assembly Member Santiago (AB 2759). The BRN Legislative Committee will be discussing AB 2759 and making a recommendation to the BRN at their meeting March 15 in San Diego. The bill is scheduled to be heard in committee on March 19.

AB 2759 would:

- Prohibit clinics and health facilities that receive public funds from excluding students enrolled in a public community college associate degree prelicensure nursing program from clinical placement slots if the program has been approved by the BRN.
- Prohibit clinics and health facilities from discriminating against a person because he or she has completed an associate degree nursing program instead of a baccalaureate degree nursing program.
- Specify that a violation of these provisions is not a crime.

Clinical displacement is a hot issue! The ACNL Board, Health Policy Committee and Quad Council will continue to work on resolving this matter. Look to future issues of *ACNL in Action* or email blasts to learn more about how we change the conversation from clinical displacement to clinical alliance.

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Educational Partnerships Create Opportunities for Our Members

In support of our commitment to lifelong learning, ACNL partners with several academic institutions who agree to provide stipends or tuition reductions for ACNL members attending their programs.

A special thank you to our educational partners:

- American Sentinel University
- Ameritech College of Healthcare
- Azusa Pacific University
- Chamberlain College of Nursing
- Concordia University Irvine
- Grand Canyon University
- National University
- Southern New Hampshire University
- University of San Francisco
- Vanguard University
- Walden University
- West Coast University
- Western Governor's University

Use the link below to view our webpage featuring our academic partners and their programs.

[ACNL Educational Partners](#)

ACNL Scholarship Program – Making a Difference for Nurse Leaders

By Maureen A. Casamiquela, PhD, RN
Member, Philanthropic, Recognition and Scholarship Committee



Bradley Howard is currently the Clinical Director of a 100-bed Intensive Care Unit at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, a tertiary hospital. I had the pleasure of meeting Bradley in 2010 when he joined the Regional Patient Care Services team at Kaiser Permanente, Southern California as a Practice Specialist. At that time, he was thrilled to receive an ACNL scholarship to financially assist with the completion of his Master's Degree in Nursing. He later advanced to the position of Regional Director of Nursing Research at Kaiser.

A longtime member of ACNL, Bradley emphasizes that receiving an ACNL scholarship propelled him to the completion of an advanced degree at a time when it was greatly needed and appreciated. As a Gen X leader, his perspective has been scholarly, passionate and focused on the future of nursing. His operational experience and research expertise, create a broad-based professional profile.

According to Bradley, active participation in ACNL has created bonds of friendship and a network of colleagues and leaders he can confidentially seek for professional career guidance and best practice discussions. Bradley describes the value of ACNL membership as “keeping you on the edge of what is

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happening in California,” and calls ACNL a “community of partnerships.”

Bradley completed the ACNL Foundation for Leadership Excellence Course, has served as a member of the Member Services Committee and is currently on the Annual Program Committee.



Supporting lifelong learning by awarding scholarships to the next generation of nurse leaders is one of the many ways the *Circles of Giving* program supports the work of ACNL. Your donation in any amount will further ACNL’s work and vision!

[To Learn More or Make a Donation to ACNL’s Circles of Giving](#)

Upcoming Events:

ACNL’s Foundation for Leadership Excellence Course

April 23-27, 2018

Embassy Suites – Walnut Creek

ACNL’s *Foundation for Leadership Excellence Course* is a five-day intensive program to help emerging nurse leaders develop long-lasting, effective leadership skills. Whether it’s human resource issues, customer-service concerns, implementation of quality and patient safety initiatives, budget analysis, cost-saving mandates or building your influence as a leader, you will gain new perspectives and solutions for the difficult challenges you face on a daily basis.

[More Information and Online Registration](#)

Free Webinar from ACNL and AMN

Meeting the Challenge! Nurse and Nurse Executive Viewpoints on the Healthcare Workforce

Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Webinar Presenter: Marcia Faller, PhD, RN
Chief Clinical Officer, AMN Healthcare

The viewpoints of nurses and nurse leaders are critical in meeting the challenges we face in today’s uncertain health care environment. Whether they’re about shortages, work environment, patient satisfaction, education, licensure or quality of care, the perspectives from the front lines of healthcare are vital for strategic planning and effective decision-making.

AMN Healthcare has recently produced three compelling surveys of nurse leaders and nurses that spotlight critical topics including: the growth in nurse leadership opportunities, nurses’ views about

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their leaders, how staff shortages affect patient care, generational differences in the workforce and the advancing tsunami of nurse retirement. This webinar provides a comprehensive view of the growing role of nursing and nurse leadership in this transformational era.

[Register for the ACNL/AMN Webinar](#)

Recent ACNL Webinars:

Leading the Way! Saving Lives by Adding SBIRT to Your Patient Assessment

Broadcast March 7, 2018

Presenter: Beverly Quaye, EdD, RN, CENP, FACHE, NEA-BC
Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, CSU, Fullerton
ACNL 2016 President

Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) is an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce and prevent problematic use, abuse and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs. The SBIRT model was incited by an Institute of Medicine recommendation that called for community-based screening for health risk behaviors, including substance use. Learn more about SBIRT and how to implement it during this informative webinar.

[Access Webinar Recording and Materials](#)

Mind-Body-Spiritual Stress Buster for Nurse Leaders!

Broadcast on January 16, 2018

Presenter: Jill E. Bormann, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN
Clinical Professor/Research Health Scientist
Hahn School of Nursing & Health Sciences/Beyster Institute of Nursing Research
University of San Diego

Dr. Bormann presents an overview of the Mantram Repetition Program – an evidence-based set of ancient, spiritual strategies that have been adapted for use in the modern workplace to manage stress and promote wellbeing. Content will include practical, down-to-earth instructions, along with stories and examples that illustrate research evidence. There is growing evidence that the *Mantram Repetition Program* is an effective, complementary approach to symptom management that is invisible, inexpensive, non-pharmacological, and complementary to mainstream medicine.

[Access Webinar Recording and Materials](#)

[Visit ACNL's Webinar Library to Access Past Programs](#)

Please Note – You will be prompted to log-onto ACNL's website to view webinar recordings

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ANA\C's RN Day at the Capitol

April 9, 2018
State Capitol in Sacramento

Each year, American Nurses Association\California presents a dynamic educational conference in Sacramento to open the world of politics and legislation in a friendly and easy to understand venue. The goal of this conference is to provide the tools nurses need to effectively participate in the legislative process and support the nursing agenda throughout California.

Featured RN Day Speaker: Nurse Alice Benjamin, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC



Nurse Alice Benjamin is a top tier media trained health expert. Some of her television appearances include Fox and Friends, Dr. Oz, The Doctors, Dr. Drew, HLN News Now, KTLA 5 Morning News, and NewsOne Now. She's also appeared on a variety of radio shows across the nation. She will describe how nurses can strengthen their voice and influence and become more effective advocates for their patients, communities and profession.

[Learn More About ANA\C's RN Day at the Capitol](#)



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