



ACNL in Action:

Nurse Leaders Making a Difference!

Association of California Nurse Leaders

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BRN Update: Nurse Licensure Compact

At their June 12 meeting in Sacramento, the BRN reviewed and discussed the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). ACNL CEO Patricia McFarland provided testimony on behalf of ACNL, the California Association of Colleges of Nursing (CACN) and the California Nursing Students' Association (CNSA). In addition, several other professional organizations and unions representing nurses spoke in opposition of California entering into the NLC.

At the conclusion of public testimony, the Board voted **NOT** to join the Nurse Licensure Compact. The final decision was based on: concerns for consumer safety because five states in the compact do not require fingerprinting and background checks; the education and practice standards in some states do not meet California's minimum standards; issues related to enforcement; and the economic impact the compact would have on our state's health professions scholarship fund.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing continues to update information regarding the Nurse Licensure Compact. While the National Council supports the program, it is an individual state's responsibility to establish the criteria and regulations for the practice of nursing. ACNL will continue to monitor the NCSBN website to ensure our members are kept abreast of changes and recommendations related to the NLC.

BRN: APRN Regulations

The BRN Practice Committee is currently reviewing Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 8, Sections 1480-1484 pertaining to nurse practitioners. The Committee will meet in August to continue their review of Nurse Practitioner regulations. Individuals interested in hearing more about the proposed changes are encouraged to attend the BRN Practice Committee meeting on August 7th in Southern California. The specific location has yet to be determined but will be posted to the BRN site within the next few weeks. Visit www.rn.ca.gov to learn more about the upcoming meeting.

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Member Services – New Membership Category for Emerging Nurse Leaders

At ACNL's April Board meeting, Anitra Williams, Board liaison to the Member Services Committee, provided a synopsis of information gathered at the generation X and Y focus groups held during ACNL's annual conference in February. As a result, the Board asked Anitra to formulate a taskforce, including members from the focus groups, to discuss and develop membership criteria for emerging nurse leaders.

The taskforce met in May and provided the Board with criteria for an emerging nurse leader membership level. The Board accepted the recommendations for this new membership level and referred the proposed language to the Bylaws Committee. Over the next two months, the Bylaws Committee will develop language to be voted on by the ACNL membership.

Philanthropic Proposal Approved

Over the past year, members of the Philanthropic Committee have been investigating the feasibility of expanding ACNL's Scholarship and Philanthropic program. Bev Quaye and Patricia McFarland provided an overview of the Committee's recommendations at the Joint Board and Chapter Leader Meeting in February. At the April Board meeting a formal RFP was presented and approved. The RFP was distributed to interested parties.

The returned proposal was reviewed by the Board and approved at the June meeting. The next steps include approval by the Philanthropic Committee and notification of the successful consultants. Look for updates on this important work in the next few months.

The Board would like to thank Stephanie Robinson, Anne Tanner, Bev Quaye and Ellen Zoschak for their leadership on this project.

ACNL to Provide Funding for Recommendation #7 Leadership Meeting

For the past three years, ACNL members have actively participated in the California Action Coalition (CA AC) and have been the driving force behind Recommendation #7: *To prepare and enable nurses to lead change to advance health*. Co-leads for Recommendation #7 are Patricia McFarland and Myra Lang. In the early stages of planning, the team developed an organizational structure for this recommendation. The leadership oversight group then divided the work into four taskforces: 1) student nurse involvement, 2) mentorship, 3) leadership competencies, and 4) voice. Each of these subgroups are facilitated by ACNL members. The work of the leadership competencies and mentorship groups were discussed in detail at the June Board meeting.

Dr. Linda Searle Leach and her team have been working for the past two years on identification of key leadership competencies for direct care providers to executive leadership. Their work has included hours of literature review, communication with others doing the same or similar work and discussions with nurse leaders across the state. They are entering the final stages of development and have formally requested that ACNL sponsor an in-person meeting for key participants to discuss completion of the competency grid and to develop strategic next steps. The ACNL Board appreciates the work of the task force and approved the funds to move this work forward. The team anticipates that their completed product will be distributed to nurse leaders for review and comment by the end of 2014.

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Other Announcements

Website: Take a few minutes to visit the new ACNL website and give us your feedback! Members of the Member Services and Communication/Voice Committee are providing consultation to staff as we transition to an enhanced platform. Brenda Brozek, ACNL's Communications Consultant, is providing the leadership for this important project.

Annual Program – *Discover the Magic of Nurse Leadership*, ACNL's 2015 Annual Conference will be at the Disneyland Hotel and Resort February 1-4. The Annual Program Committee is already working to make this "an out of the park" experience for all.

Webinars: A special thank you to the Quality and Patient Safety Committee for hosting the June 24 webinar, ***Unleashing the Power of Lean***. Pam Wells, CNO and VP, Sharp Memorial Hospital; Brandi Cassingham, Director, Saddleback Memorial Medical Center; and Carole Colln, Manager, Miller Children's Hospital, presented best practices utilizing Lean. The Lean webinar is one of several featuring innovations and best practices from ACNL Annual Conference poster sessions and is provided free of charge for ACNL members.

A recording this and other webinars are available to members through the ACNL website.

Educational Cruise: The fall educational cruise, originally planned for September, has been rescheduled and will occur in the spring of 2015. We are currently working with members to determine dates to promote optimal attendance. Members attending the 2014 Annual Program in February clearly expressed support for the cruise and want to sail up the North coast to Canada.