



**Candidate Booklet:
2018 Election
for
2019 ACNL
Board of Directors**



2019 Board of Directors Election

The Association of California Nurse Leaders is proud to present the 2018 Ballot for the election of our 2019 Board of Directors.

Regular, Emeritus, Emerging Nurse Leader and Affiliate Members are eligible to vote for corporate officers and directors *in their geographic region*.

Associate Members and Professional Colleagues do **not** have access to the ballot, as they are ineligible to vote.

Voting will close at 5:00pm on August 30, 2018.



PRESIDENT - ELECT

Mary Bittner, DNP, MPA, RN, CENP

Adjunct Faculty, EL-DNP Program
University of San Francisco

San Francisco, CA

Education:

Executive Leadership DNP, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

MPA, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

BSN, California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

ADN, Mt. San Antonio Junior College, Walnut, CA

ACNL Activities:

- ACNL Member 2003-present
- Member Services Committee 2007-2008
- Communications/Voice Committee 2012-present (Chair 2014-15; Board Liaison 2016-17)
- Thought Leader Group 2015
- Board Member-North 2016 and 2017 present

ACNL Awards:

- Excellence in Leadership – North Recipient 2013

Related Professional Activities:

- ACNL Sac-Sierra Chapter Member 2014-present
- AONE Member and Certified Executive in Nursing Practice (CENP) 2011-present
- Adjunct Faculty at USF 2013-present
- Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society Member
- CINHC Nursing Education Redesign
- CHA/CNP Advisory Committee 2017-present
- HFMA (Healthcare Financial Management Association) Member 2013-present
- Nightingale College Board Member 2016-present

Statement:

These are exciting times for Nurse Leaders in California as healthcare market disruption continues and new leadership roles emerge. I'm grateful for this highly collaborative organization we call ACNL and proud to have served on the Board for two of my 15 years of active membership. Now more than ever, our presence at the table with key stakeholders is essential to influence the rapid changing healthcare landscape. It is for this reason that I am running as President-Elect for ACNL. Current healthcare transformation requires nursing influence in strategic decisions to ensure professional practice retention in our care delivery models. Simultaneously, the transition of our aging nursing workforce along with retirement of seasoned service and academic leaders adds challenge to our efforts. If elected, I will promote engagement of our veteran ACNL leaders and key community partners to enhance collaborative innovation and effectively promote succession development of our future executive leaders.



PRESIDENT- ELECT

Laurie Ecoff, PhD, RN, NEA-BC

Vice President, Center of Nursing Excellence
Sharp HealthCare

San Diego, CA

Education:

PhD, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

MS in Nursing Administration, San Diego State University, San Diego,

CA BSN, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

AAS in Nursing, St. Mary's Jr. College, Minneapolis, MN

ACNL Activities:

- 2018 - 2019, Co-Chair, Annual Program Committee
- 2016 - 2018, Member, Annual Program Committee
- 2016, President, San Diego Chapter
- 2014-2015, Board Member, Statewide ACNL
- 2014-2015, Board Liaison, ACNL Research Committee
- 2013-2015, Chair, Annual Innovations Conference, San Diego chapter
- 2013-2014, Life **Moxie** Mentor
- 2013, Member, Quality and Safety Committee
- 2006-2007, Chair, Poster Abstract Committee
- 2005-2007, Member, Annual Program Committee

ACNL Awards:

- 2016 ACNL Chapter Excellence Award, San Diego Chapter
- 2012 Excellence in Leadership, San Diego

Related Professional Activities:

- 2018 - present, Appraiser, American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), Practice Transition Accreditation Program
- 2017- present, On-site evaluator, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
- 2016-2017, Grant reviewer, Sigma Theta Tau International/ANCC Evidence-Based Practice Implementation Grant program
- 2014-2015, Board member, Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial County
- 2012-2013, 2015, Expert panel member, ANCC Nurse Executive Advanced certification (NEA-BC)
- 2010 - present, Appraiser, ANCC Pathways to Excellence Program
- 2009 - present, Abstract reviewer, ANCC Magnet Conference
- 2006 - present, Clinical Associate Professor, University of San Diego
- Ongoing - member of various professional organizations including ACNL, ANA & STTI

Statement:

ACNL's mission (developing nurse leaders, advancing professional practice, influencing health policy and promoting quality and patient safety) and vision (positioning nurse leaders to influence the future of health care), remain timeless in the ever changing nursing and healthcare landscape. As your president, I will passionately embrace the current nursing leadership challenges and opportunities with an eye to the future and a focus on positioning ACNL and our members for success.

We have an opportunity as an exemplar affiliate of AONE to continue to innovate how we actualize our mission and vision. I am an integrative leader who believes leading begins with listening and I will actively seek the voice of ACNL members, interprofessional colleagues and industry partners as we advance our strategic agenda. I welcome the opportunity to be the president of ACNL and build on the exemplary leadership of previous presidents, board members and trailblazers within the organization.



PRESIDENT - ELECT

Stephanie R. Robinson, MHA, RN

Director of Nursing
Fresno City College

Fresno, CA

Education:

PhD-HEA enrolled with University of Phoenix –Phoenix, Arizona
MHA, Chapman University – Orange, California
BSN, CSU Dominguez Hills – Carson, California
AD Nursing, Fresno City College – Fresno, California

ACNL Activities:

- ACNL Member 1999-present
- ACNL Director, Board of Directors; Central 2008-10
- ACNL Quality and Patient Safety 2006-2008
- ACNL Treasurer/Secretary 2010-2012
- ACNL PRS Committee Chair 2012-2014
- ACNL PRS Committee Member 2015-present

Related Professional Activities:

- NLC of the Central San Joaquin Valley Member 1990-present
- NLC of the CSJV-President 6/1/2016
- California Organization for ADN North, President-2013-15
- California Organization for ADN North, President-2018-2020
- Sigma Theta Tau-Mu Nu, President 2001-2003 again in 2017 - 2019

Statement:

Health care is in a constant state of change. Academia, professional organizations, policy agencies, and healthcare services, now more than ever; will need to work together to address how we can keep pace with necessary healthcare changes of the future. As a Thought Leader within HealthImpact moves forward with Educational Redesign, I was one of the many who had an opportunity to provide innovation, creativity and change necessary for a strategic educational action plan for California. Working in partnerships in a collaborative manner will assist in the involvement of key stakeholders to develop new ways to change our healthcare delivery. Another focus is on Academic Progression, the nursing profession can achieve degree advancement at various levels within the nursing profession through the development of Programs and collaborative partnerships or system wide changes in degree delivery. Anything is possible when change is allowed to occur forging partnerships through collaboration



PRESIDENT- ELECT

Anitra Williams, DNP, RN, HACP, CCRN

Director of Nursing Operations
St. Joseph's Medical Center

Stockton, CA

Education:

DNP - University of Nevada, Reno (2014)
MSN – Walden University, Minneapolis (2010)
BSN – California State University, Stanislaus (2003)

ACNL Activities:

- ACNL Board Representative Central and Chapter Liaison (2014-2016)
- ACNL Member (2011-present)
- ACNL Member Services/Member Experience Committee (2011 – February 2018)
- ACNL Member Services/Member Experience Committee Co-chair (2016 – February 2018)
- Annual Program (2018-present)

ACNL Awards

- ACNL Best Practice Award- Innovation in Nursing (2013)

Related Professional Activities:

- American Nurses Association
- Chair, Healthcare Pathways Team (San Joaquin Health Sector Partnership)
- Co-chair, San Joaquin County's Human Trafficking Healthcare Workgroup
- Sigma Theta Tau
- Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Nurse of Distinction Award (2015)
- Dignity Health Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce
- San Joaquin County Human Trafficking Taskforce
- LifeMoxie Mentor – (2016)
- Susan B. Anthony Award in Healthcare/Community (2017)
- Decision Medicine, (2011- present)

Statement:

Whether in Industry or Academia, we are all experiencing our fair share of challenges. Wherever we sit, what's needed is **bold** leadership. As your President-Elect, I will continue to honor our mission while ensuring any new goals help secure our future.

As a former ACNL Board Central representative and co-Chair for Member Experience, I have had the privilege of participating in strategic planning, facilitating generational and Chief Nurse Executive focus groups gaining keen insight into how we can increase our current 40% membership retention rate by consistently demonstrating our value. My initial focuses are to:

- Increase membership **retention** and **engagement** by promoting/developing opportunities geared towards emerging nurse leaders through executive levels in a variety of settings including acute care and academia.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders, challenging us to think about our organizational "why" - with the intent to build services that are sure to attract and retain members.



BOARD - NORTH

Chantel Johnson, PhD, RN

Service Line Executive
Pediatrics and Women's Health
Sutter Health

Mountain View, CA

Education:

PhD, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
BSN, University of Washington, Tacoma, WA
ADN, Tacoma Community College, Tacoma WA

ACNL Activities:

Member ACNL, 2014-present

Committee Chair--Nurse Leadership Development
2016-present (member since 2015)

ACNL Awards:

ACNL Awardee, *Friend of Nursing*, 2018

Related Professional Activities:

Healthcare Executive Fellow, National 14-month Program, [Carol Emmott Fellowship](#) 2016-2017

Healthcare Executive Mentor, Carol Emmott Fellowship, 2017-present

Preceptor, RN-BSN and MN Students, 2015-present

National Delegate-West Coast, Nurse Executive Content Expert, ANCC 2015-2017

Up and Comer Award Recipient, [Modern Healthcare](#) 2017

Statement:

ACNL derives strength from our history and passion to lead. It's time to shape our future and accelerate our organizational transformation to better serve California nurse leaders. We must grow our visibility in healthcare forums, both inside and outside nursing. To lead our transformation, the ACNL board must champion membership growth, reputation, and visibility. To grow, we should:

- Modernize: increase our social media presence and update our image.
- Recruit: expand membership benefits and advertise membership advantages.
- Commit to Inclusivity: All nurse leaders all belong here, advance support for leaders at all career stages.

Our reputation and visibility hinge on successful partnerships. We should foster existing relationships, forge new partnerships, and focus on our brand to develop our image as the premier organization for all California nurse leaders. When any organization, newsroom, or politician wants information about nursing or healthcare leadership, they should think of ACNL first.



BOARD - CENTRAL

Terri Church, RN, MSNA, NEA-BC

Vice President, Chief Nursing Executive Officer
Bakersfield Memorial Hospital

Bakersfield, CA

Education:

- 1999 MS, California State University, Bakersfield (Nursing Administration)
- 1998 Total Quality Management Program, California State University, Bakersfield
- 1990 BS, California State University, Bakersfield (Nursing), Graduated Magna Cum Laude
- 1978 AS, Bakersfield College (Registered Nurse), Dean's List

ACNL Activities:

- 2009 – Present Event Planning Committee, ACNL, Kern County Chapter
- 2013 – 2016 Secretary, ACNL, Kern County Chapter
- 2010 – 2011 President, ACNL, Kern County Chapter
- 2008 – 2009 Event Chair, ACNL, Kern County Chapter

Related Professional Activities:

- 2014 – Present American Nurses Association
- 2014 – Present ANA\California
- 2010 – Present American Organization of Nurse Executives
- 2007 – Present American Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL)
- 2007 – Present ACNL, Kern County Chapter
- 1998 – Present CSUB/BC Advisory Board
- 1994 – Present National Association of Female Executives
- 1994 – Present Sigma Theta Tau, National Nursing Honor Society, Xi Epsilon chapter

Statement:

California's Central Valley is a unique and diverse area; as a nurse serving in this region for 40 years, I possess an exceptional understanding of the needs of our nursing community and patient populations. My career has been dedicated to creating high quality, reliable systems of care and developing the next generation of healthcare professionals. I've worked collaboratively with the CSUB and Bakersfield College RN programs and feel that in order to attract and retain the next generation of our nursing workforce we must invest in creating a culture of shared decision making, safety, quality, well-being and professional development. That's why Memorial Hospital chose to earn our Pathway to Excellence designation. I'm committed to nursing excellence, improving patient outcomes, inter-professional collaboration and the delivery of safe and effective patient care. Collaboration is a core value that I carry with me always, whether it's in my personal or professional life.



BOARD - CENTRAL

Michelle Lawrence, MSN, RN

Director of Ambulatory Care Services
Kaiser Permanente – Kern County

Bakersfield, CA

Education:

DNP (In Progress) University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL
MSN, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL
BSN, California State University, Bakersfield, Bakersfield, CA
AA, Liberal Arts, Bakersfield College, Bakersfield, CA

ACNL Activities:

- Member ACNL, *2013-present*
- Central California Regional Board Rep – *2017-2018*
- Healthy Work Environment Committee – Board Liason – *2017-2018*
- Kern County Chapter – member – *2013-current*
- RN of the Year Committee – *2013-2017*
- Legislation Committee – *2017 - current*

ACNL Awards:

- 2017 RN of the Year (Innovation)
- ACNL, Kern County Chapter Scholarship Recipient

Related Professional Activities:

- AWOHNN Member
- Sigma Theta Tau Member
- American Heart Association, Go Red Chair, *2016*
- Golden Key International Honor Society
- Adjunct Nursing Professor, CSU, Bakersfield
- Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society Member
- Junior League of Bakersfield, Active member, *2009 – 2016*
- HELPS International mission volunteer, *2010-current*
- Health Services Disaster Relief Volunteer, Red Cross
- East Bakersfield High School Health Careers Mentor, *2014 - current*

Statement:

The ACNL has seen many struggles and triumphs for our profession during the last 40 years, including healthcare reform, scope of practice, clinical displacement and increasing regulations. But, the most significant challenge facing the ACNL today is creating a strong, unified voice. When numerous nursing organizations advocate for multiple opinions, it dilutes the strength of our message. To fortify our voice and ensure that nursing is heard regarding healthcare decisions, we must build widespread relationships. During my term as Board Central Liason, I have diligently worked toward building relationships, including with the ANAC and CHA. If elected for a second term, my strategy includes strengthening relationships with nursing organizations in the state, close involvement with the BRN, and active participation in legislation. If chosen, I would utilize my experience in prehospital emergency services, acute care, and ambulatory care to be your voice and represent the most trusted profession on earth.



BOARD - CENTRAL

Rebecca Sanders, RN, MN, CNML

Director Emergency Department Adventist
Health Lodi Memorial

Lodi, CA

Education:

MN, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA BSN, University of
Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

ACNL Activities:

- Member ACNL 2013- present
- Quality, Safety, Experience Committee member 2018-present
- North Central Chapter, member 2013, Secretary 2016, President-elect 2017, President 2018

Related Professional Activities:

- American Nurses Association – member
- Association of Critical Care Nurses – member
- American Organization of Nurse Executives - member
- Emergency Nurses Association - member
- Sigma Theta Tau - member

Statement:

Nurse leaders: many priorities, numerous things to measure, a plethora of people to hold accountable. How is there time to devote to influencing the future of nursing? Yet it has to be us, the nurse leaders, who advocate for our profession. And ACNL is an excellent avenue with which to do that. With the resources, the fellow leaders and the will to make a difference, ACNL will help develop future leaders, influence policy, and promote quality and safety for our patients and our profession. I want to be part of that. I would be honored to represent you as board member for the Central Region.



BOARD - SOUTH

Lee A. Galuska, PhD, RN, NE-BC

Executive Director, Center for Nursing Excellence
UCLA Health

Los Angeles, CA

Education:

PhD - University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT (2013)
MSN - University of Hartford, Hartford, CT (2004)
BSN - University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT (1979)

ACNL Activities:

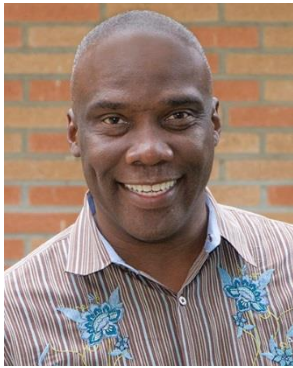
- ACNL Los Angeles Coastal Chapter Board Advisor, Past President, President, President-Elect, Secretary (2013-2018)
- ACNL Member (2013-present)

Related Professional Activities:

- ACNL, Nursing Leadership Development Committee member (2018)
- AONE, Education Committee and Webinar Subcommittee Member (2016-present)
- AONE member (2002-present)
- Organization of Nurse Executives, Connecticut (ONE-CT), Immediate Past-President, 2011-2012, President, 2010, Treasurer, 2007-2009.
- Sigma Theta Tau, Mu Chapter member
- LifeMoxie Mentor
- ANA, ANA-C Member
Association of Nurses in Professional Development (ANPD), Member

Statement:

One of the most pressing issues facing healthcare leaders today is the approaching nursing shortage. Leaders are challenged to implement strategies to retain an engaged and effective workforce and to innovate to prepare the workforce for the future. By embracing the quadruple aim, ACNL has the opportunity to support current and emerging nurse leaders to create the conditions for meaning and joy in nursing practice, enhance resiliency, and increase retention of the nursing workforce. California nurse leaders, with the support of their professional organization, can be developed to increase their own self-care and resiliency strategies so they can continue to lead and develop the next generation of nurse leaders. In this era of healthcare transformation, ACNL can play a pivotal role in developing leaders who create healthy practice environments in all settings so that nurses can flourish in their practice and advance the health of our communities.



BOARD - SOUTH

Austin Nation, PhD, RN, PHN

Assistant Professor
California State University, Fullerton

Fullerton, CA

Education:

PhD, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA (2016)

MSN – Leadership, California State University, Fullerton (2011)

BSN, California State University, Fullerton (2009)

ADN, Long Beach City College (1982)

ACNL Activities:

- Member ACNL, 2009-present
- Orange County/Long Beach Chapter
President-Elect – 2017
President – 2017-2018
- Greater San Francisco Chapter
Member – 2011-2016
Secretary – 2015-2016
- Membership Experience Committee -2016

ACNL Scholarships:

- 2015 Excellence in Leadership

Related Professional Activities:

- President, Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL), OC/LB Chapter (2017- 2018)
- Member, Reliant Health Centers (formerly AIDS Services Foundation Orange County) Medical Services Task Force (2017)
- President- Elect, Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL), OC/LB Chapter (2017)
- President, Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) @ American Nurses Association – Minority Fellowship Program, Alumni Working Group (2016 – present)
- Advisory Board, HealthImpact and California Action Coalition – Diversity Work Group (2016- present)
- Committee Member, Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL) - Membership Experience Committee (2016)
- Member, American Nurses Association
- Member, Western Institute of Nursing
- Member, Sigma Theta Tau International
- Member, Sigma Theta Tau International – Upsilon Beta Chapter
- Member, National Black Nurses Association
- Member, Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
- Founder, Past –President, The American Assembly for Men in Nursing – Southern CA Chapter
- Past-President, The American Assembly for Men in Nursing – Bay Area Chapter
- Founder, President of California State University, Fullerton Nursing Alumni Chapter
- Founder, Past-President and Member of Cal State Fullerton Nursing Students Association

Statement:

I believe that ACNL needs to prepare itself for the next generation of nurse leaders and be every intentional about utilizing technology to reach this population. We need to re-think our “business as usual approach” and move past the “we’ve done that before” mentality and position ourselves to continue to be the premier nursing leadership agency in California. There needs to be more of an emphasis on doing outreach, including ideas like “bring a friend for free” incentives so people can find out what our organization is all about. We must towards utilizing engaging electronic platforms to keep our members aware of what is going on. We want our members to feel like there is always something fun and exciting happening in the organization, adding value to their membership so that they are more readily to feel connected and stay involved. Let’s more ACNL forward into the future and beyond!



BOARD – SAN DIEGO

Michelle Goldbach, DNP, MHA, RN, CHPN

Clinical Manager, Palliative Care and Pediatric Hospice Care Programs
The Elizabeth Hospice

San Diego, CA

Education:

DNP- Oregon Health & Science University (2017)
MHA- California State University, Long Beach (1990)
BSN-California State University, Long Beach (1984)

ACNL Activities:

- ACNL Member of Nursing Leadership Development Committee (2018)
- ACNL 2019 Innovations Conference Committee Chair.
- ACNL Member, San Diego Chapter (2005- present)
- ACNL Innovations Conference Committee Chair, Co-Chair and member (2005-present)
- ACNL State Member (2004-2005; 2018-present)
- ACNL Health Care Policy Committee (2004-2005)

Related Professional Activities:

- The Roe Group Enterprises, member of the Editorial Advisory Board
- American College of Healthcare Executives
- Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (2016-present)
- Coalition of Compassion Care for California, State (2017-present)
- Chair Elect- San Diego Coalition of Compassionate Care for California (2018)
- Education Chair- San Diego Coalition of Compassionate Care for California (2018)
- Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse (2011- present)
- The Elizabeth Hospice, Workplace of Choice Committee, Co-Chair
- National Hospice and Palliative Care Association (2005-2009; 2011-present)
- Hospice and Palliative Care Nursing Association (2011-present)
- Advanced Practice Nurse Meeting- member; facilitator (2013-present)
- Advanced Practice Oncology Providers (2017-present)
- Continuing Education Provider (2012-present)
- Faculty, EBPI Institute, (2008-present)
- Faculty, National University, (2010-2015; 2017-present) Adjunct Faculty

Statement:

The most significant issues facing ACNL is membership, diversity, and impacting social determinants of health. These issues are reflected in the ACNL core values of Inclusivity, Innovation, and Diversity. I believe that as an organization we will be able to make a difference in our health care system and the lives of those who are unable to access adequate care. If we are to improve the health of our communities and globally, we must be advocates for making sustainable changes in the way we practice and the way health care is reimbursed. I believe that as a collective group of nurse leaders standing alongside our colleagues of all health care disciplines we can be that change in health care today. However, in order to do so and advance the profession of nursing, we need to increase the number of emerging leaders across all fields, generations, and settings.



BOARD – SAN DIEGO

Marlys Vespe, MSN, RN, NEA-BC

Director, Clinical Services
Scripps Health

San Diego, CA

Education:

MSN, San Diego State University
BSN, University of New Mexico

ACNL Activities:

- Member, ACNL, 2018
- Member, San Diego ACNL 2006 - present
- San Diego ACNL: Chair, Annual Innovations Conference, 2016, 2017, 2018
- ACNL, Quality and Patient Safety Committee

ACNL Awards:

- Best Practice- Recruitment, Retention, Outreach, 2018

Related Professional Activities:

- American Organization for Nurse Executives, member 2009 – present
- Sigma Theta Tau, Gamma Gamma, member 2004 – present
- Scripps Health Value by Design Fellowship, 2014-2016
- Advisory Board Company Fellowship, 2004 -2006
- Scripps Leadership Academy, 2004

Awards:

- Scripps Quality Award, Bronze, Medication Administration Standardization Phase III, 2015
- Scripps Quality Award, Silver, Medication Administration Standardization, 2014
- Scripps Health Values in Action, Leadership 2004

Statement:

Many of the issues facing us are the same as when I first began my nursing career, yet there are new ones as well. The key issue that I see which has continued, that needs to be addressed, is nurses advocating for the changes in healthcare that would benefit not only those we care for but the working environment as well. The new challenge nursing has is the multiple generations in the workplace and the technology evolution. While technology allows easier and timely connection it has taken the place of dialoguing with each other. I would like to work with ACNL members to build a forum which appeals to all generations of nurses to come together. One that allows us to identify our similarities and common ground; one which inspires new thinking and innovation to address some of the ongoing dilemmas; one utilizing technology to ensure nursing's voice is heard!