



MARCH 2015 THROUGH JUNE 2016

ABNS

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT

WWW.NURSINGCERTIFICATION.ORG

INTRODUCTION

This report reflects the accomplishments and activities of ABNS for the period March 2015 through June 2016. The ABNS Report is formatted using the ABNS Success Markers as the organizing framework.

The ABNS Fiscal Year 2016 began July 1, 2015. Members of the ABNS Board of Directors are:

- Leslie Anne Patry, MScN, BScN, RN, President (NBCRNA);
- C. Lynne Grief, PhD, RN, CEN, President-Elect (BCEN)
- Rick Meadows, MS, NP-C, FAANP, Secretary/Treasurer (American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP);
- Chris Hunt, MBA, Member at Large (INCC);
- Carol Zupancic, ABNS Public Member;
- James Stobinski, PhD, RN, CNOR , (CCI), ABSNC President, is an Ex-Officio member.

Staff members are Bonnie Niebuhr, Chief Executive Officer; Melissa Biel, Deputy Director; Barbara Glennon, Bookkeeper and Administrative Assistant; and Monika Cornelius, Meeting Planner.

ABNS Member Organizations – ABNS has 32 Regular Member Organizations.

Regular Member Organizations:

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Cert. Corp. (AACN Certification Corp.)
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Cert. Program (AANPCP)
American Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses (ABCGN)
American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN)
American Board for Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. (ABOHN)
American Board of Perianesthesia Nursing Certification, Inc. (ABPANC)
American Holistic Nurses Credentialing Corporation (AHNCC)
American Legal Nurse Consultant Certification Board (ALNCCB)
American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB)
Addictions Nursing Certification Board (ANCB)
American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
American Organization of Nurse Executives Credentialing Center (AONE)
American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)
Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN)
Competency and Credentialing Institute (CCI)
Certified Nurse Life Care Planners Certification Board (CNLCPCB)
Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC – formerly NBCHPN)
Infusion Nurses Certification Corporation (INCC)
Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board (MSNCB)
National Alliance of Wound Care (NAWCCB)
National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA)
National Board for Certification of School Nurses (NBCSN)
National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators (NCBDE)
National Certification Corporation for the Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing Specialties (NCC)
National League for Nursing (NLN)
Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission (NNCC)
Orthopaedic Nurses Certification Board (ONCB)
Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC)
Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB)
Rehabilitation Nursing Certification Board (RNCB)
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board (WOCNCB)

The following member organizations chose not to renew membership in July 2015:

- Board of Nephrology Examiners Nursing & Technology (BONENT)
- Canadian Nurses Association Certification Program (CNA)

ABNS Member Organizations – ABNS has 13 Affiliate Member Organizations.

Affiliate Member Organizations:

Alpine Testing Solutions, Inc.
Castle Worldwide, Inc.
Center for Nursing Education and Testing, Inc.
Citizen Advocacy Center
CGFNS International
Heuristic Solutions
Institute for Credentialing Excellence
Pearson Vue
Professional Examination Service
Prometric
PSI/AMP a PSI company
SeaCrest Consulting Company
Schroeder Measurement Technologies, Inc.

SUCCESS MARKER I

ABNS is the authoritative resource and voice for issues of specialty nursing certification.

❖ **ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy:**

May 2015

During Nurses Week in May 2015, ABNS President Leslie Anne Patry presented the 2015 ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy to Virginia Commonwealth University health System, Richmond, VA.

May 2016

During Nurses Week in May 2016, ABNS President Leslie Anne Patry presented the 2016 ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy to Americare EMS Critical Care Services, located in Drumond, New Jersey. The University of North Carolina Hospitals in Chapel Hill, North Carolina received an honorable mention.

Information about these award recipients and the honorable mentions are found on the ABNS website under the Awards tab.

❖ **Janel Parker President's Award:**

March 2015

At the Spring 2015 ABNS Assembly meeting, the National Certification Corporation for Obstetric, Gynecologic, and neonatal Nursing (NCC) received the Janel Parker President's Award for their national campaign *Certified Nurses Are Everywhere*. This is the first nationally visible program focusing on public education and the value of certified nurses. NCC brought the program to ABNS and invited ABNS member organizations to be involved. Fran Byrd, RN, NNP-BC. MPH, NCC Director of Strategic Initiatives accepted the award on behalf of NCC.

March 2016

At the Spring 2016 ABNS Assembly meeting, the Competency and Credentialing Institute (CCI) received the Janel Parker president's Award for its long-standing contributions to advancing nursing certification and credentialing research, including the widely used Perceived Value of Certification Tool (PVCT). In addition, CCI has hosted research conferences on continuing competence in nursing and patient safety. In addition, in collaboration with ABNS, convened the Nursing Certification and Competency Research Summit in 2009.

- ❖ **Representation at the Citizen Advocacy Center (CAC) Annual Meeting:** Carol Zupancic, ABNS Public Member, represented ABNS at the CAC Annual Meeting “Demonstrating Current Competence: How Far Have We Come? Where Are We Headed?” held November 12-13, 2015 in Washington DC.
- ❖ **Interprofessional Relationship with the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS):** Our relationship with ABMS continues! Carol Clothier, ABMS Vice President for State Health Policy and Public Affairs, attended the Spring 2015 Assembly meeting; In addition, ABMS representative, Dr. Davis Price, served on the ABNS Planning Group for the Value of Certification Convening and attended the meeting held in March, 2016.

SUCCESS MARKER II

ABNS ensures organizational vitality with sustainability.

- ABNS provides benefits that delight its members.
- ❖ **Assembly Meetings:** A total of 145 participants attended the Spring and Fall 2015 Assembly meetings and 103 in the Spring of 2016.
 - **Recognition of Member Anniversaries:** ABNS continues to recognize the special anniversaries of member organizations at Assembly meetings. In 2015 and Spring 2016 the following ABNS members celebrated anniversaries/milestones: AACN Cert. Corp., ABCGN, ABPANC, ANCC, BCEN, CGFNS, ONCC, PNCB.
 - **Sponsorships:** ABNS members continue to provide very generous sponsorships to support the Assembly meetings. ABNS members provided sponsorships of \$28,523 for Assembly meetings held in Spring and Fall 2015. Sponsorships for the Spring 2016 Value Convening meeting from 25 organizations, including our partners, totaled \$143,500.
 - **Posting of Powerpoint Presentations given at Assembly Meetings:** ABNS posts the Powerpoint presentations of speakers granting permission to do so on the ABNS Members Only website.
 - **The ABNS University** educational programs at the Assembly meetings are consistently evaluated highly. Based on participant feedback, we have continued programming that has delighted our members (i.e. ExpressSessions, Organizational Sharing, nationally recognized speakers).
 - **Approval of Contact Hours:** The Program Committee planned and implemented the educational programs for the certification Assembly meetings for Spring and Fall 2015.
 - At the Spring 2015 meeting, CNE approval was granted by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) for 4.75 contact hours; Participants who are CAE certified by ASAE could apply 8.25 contact hours towards CAE renewal.
 - At the Fall 2015 meeting, CNE approval was granted by AACN for 6.25 contact hours; Participants who are CAE certified by ASAE could apply 7 contact hours towards CAE renewal.
 - At the Spring 2016 meeting, an application for CNE approval was not submitted given the nature of the convening; however those who are CAE certified could apply 8.4 hours toward CAE renewal.
- ❖ **The Leaders’ Legacy Lecture Series:** This is a program designed to provide an opportunity for organizations to recognize the contributions of specialty nursing certification leaders and honor their

insights, contributions, and dedication to nursing certification. The donation submitted in the leaders' names provides funding to support education at ABNS Assembly meetings by providing a wider range of speakers on leadership issues and other topics of interest. This program is a valuable source of speaker funding. At the Spring 2015 Assembly meeting, Immediate Past President of ABNS, Maria Shirey, was recognized through this program as was Past President of both ABNS and ABSNC, Dottie Roberts, at the Fall 2015 Assembly meeting.

- ❖ **Financial News:** The ABNS accounting firm, Ciuni and Panichi, completed a review of the financial statements as of June 30, 2015, and 2014 and were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements.
- ❖ **ABNS/ABSNC Newsletter:** The ABNS/ABSNC Newsletter is distributed electronically on a quarterly basis to membership via email and is posted on the ABNS website.
- ❖ **ABNS Elections:**

The following individuals were elected at the Spring 2015 Assembly meeting:
C. Lynne Grief (BCEN) was elected President-Elect; Anniekay Erby (WOCNCB) was elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee.

The following individuals were elected at the Spring 2016 Assembly meeting:
Laurie Ellefson (WOCNCB) was elected to the Member at Large position; Adele Foerster (PNCB) and Denise Knoblauch (ABOHN) were elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee.
- ❖ **Groupsite:** Poll questions continue to be posted by members on Groupsite. This is a valuable resource for members and while *responses* to questions posed have been low we are seeing an increase. Members are encouraged to respond to questions so that information on a specific topic is communicated widely to benefit members. Responses to questions also serve a benchmarking purpose. Groupsite is also frequently used to communicate information to the ABNS member representatives.
- ❖ **Organizational Profile:** The Member Organizational Profile survey, conducted annually, was completed in April/May 2015 and posted on the ABNS website under the Members Only section.
 - 27 Member organizations offering a total of 178 credentials reported a total of 717,056 certified RNs and APRNs (slightly decreased from 718,492 in 2014). This represents a 0.2% decrease in the number of certificants from 2014.
 - In addition, 5 organizations offering 15 credentials for non RN team members, reported 89,018 non-RN team member certificants (up from 39,420 in 2014). This represents a 126% increase in the number of non RN team member certificants over 2014.
- ❖ **New Website Design Launched:** ABNS launched its newly designed website in December, 2015. INCC generously sponsored the development of the new website.
- ❖ **Succession Planning Work Team Appointed:** Bonnie Niebuhr, ABNS and ABSNC CEO informed the boards when the 2013-2016 contracts were signed that she would be retiring as of June 30, 2016. A Succession Planning Workteam comprised of board members of both organizations disseminated a call for RFPs to member organizations and management firms. **Note:** As of May 1, 2016 a firm has been notified of its selection and a contract is under review by ABNS legal counsel. An announcement of the new firm will be forthcoming in late June/early July, 2016.

SUCCESS MARKER III

ABNS advances knowledge regarding specialty nursing certification through research.

- Encourage and facilitate the conduct and dissemination of research on certification and patient outcomes, continued competence, employer support of certification, and the impact of certification in the workplace.

- ❖ **Certification Bibliography:** The certification bibliography was updated to include 2015 certification-related documents. The updated bibliography has been sent to members via Groupsite and is available on the ABNS website under the Resources tab. The 2016 Bibliography is updated throughout the year and will be updated and posted in December, 2016.

- ❖ **A National Convening: The Value of Certification – Making the Business Case for Certification:** A year of planning culminated in the first-ever interprofessional national convening, hosted by ABNS, held March 3-5, 2016 in Las Vegas. The 2014 IOM Workshop on Credentialing Research in Nursing provided a clear direction for future credentialing research. Since the value of certification extends beyond nursing, the Value Convening was an interprofessional conference. In addition to ABNS member organization representatives, partners representing the following organizations/hospital/universities were in attendance: Ohio State University College of Nursing; Duke University School of Nursing; University of Alabama at Birmingham College of Nursing; University of Maryland School of Nursing; Indiana University School of Nursing; George Washington University School of Nursing; Virginia Commonwealth University Health System; UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; NDNQI; NBCOT, BPS, CDR; ABMS; AART, ICE, and AOA. An Executive Summary and Full Report of the Convening will be posted on the ABNS website in the near future.

SUCCESS MARKER IV

ABNS supports continuing competence as a means for ensuring patient safety.

- ❖ **State Boards' Recognition of Certification:** BCEN continues to support advocacy efforts to encourage state boards to reference nursing certification in state practice acts. States that do consider certification as a component of relicensure are listed on the ABNS website.

- ❖ **Monitoring Continuing Competency Work:** The ABNS Board, Program Committee, and Research Committee continue to monitor initiatives regarding continuing competency and include program content and updates to our members regarding such work.

SUCCESS MARKER V

ABNS promotes accreditation and recognition of quality specialty nursing certification programs.

- Recognize and support the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC).
 - ❖ ABSNC activities continue in conjunction with the ABNS Assembly meetings.
 - ❖ Accreditation information found on the ABNS website under the tab – About ABSNC.
 - ❖ As part of the ABNS and ABSNC Strategic Planning, opportunities to partner around common issues are identified.