

ABNS Organizational Report for 2012 Annual Meeting

This report reflects the accomplishments and activities of ABNS for the period March 2011 – February 2012. The ABNS Report is formatted, using the ABNS Success Markers as the organizing framework.

The ABNS Fiscal Year 2012 began July 1, 2011. Members of the ABNS Board of Directors are: Jacqueline Stewart, President (BCEN); Maria Shirey, President-Elect (AACN Certification Corp.); Leslie Anne Patry, Secretary/Treasurer (CNA); Chris Hunt, Member at Large (INCC); Betty Provolt, Public Member; Dottie Roberts, ABSNC President (ONCB).

ABNS

Success Marker I

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

Organizational Update

- ABNS website is continually refined and updated. A Public Member Bureau was added to the Members Only section. Members have been asked to contribute names/contact information to add to the site, of potential public members they would recommend, but response has been poor. Individual members are asked to look around them for people they know who would be great Public Members, such as individuals in their place of worships, schools, friends, etc. Each member is challenged to provide just one name! Send names and contact information to bniebuhr@nursingcertification.org. Staff will contact individuals to obtain their level of interest and CVs.
- During Nurses Week, May, 2011, Sandra Lee Schafer, ABNS Member at Large, presented the 2011 ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy to East Jefferson General Hospital (EJGH), Critical Care Division in Metairie, LA. Information about the award recipient and the three honorable mention recipients are found on the ABNS website under the Awards tab.
- Betty Provolt, ABNS Public member attended the Citizen Advocacy Center's Annual Meeting on October 20-21, 2011. The topic was Achieving Regulatory Excellence and Effective Discipline Programs.
- Twenty-one health care organizations submitted nominations for the 2012 ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy by the January 29, 2012 deadline. The award recipient and those receiving honorable mentions will be announced at the March 2012 ABNS Assembly meeting.
- Maria Shirey, ABNS President-Elect, published an article in *JONA* that referenced the ABNS Research Summit Process.
- ABNS established a website link to NursingLicenseMap.com, at their invitation. Jackie Stewart was invited to post a blog on the site that highlighted the value of nursing certification.
- Wade Delk (AMP) presented a legislative update at the Fall 2011 Assembly meeting.
- Joan Stanley (AACN – Colleges of Nursing) presented an update on LACE at the Fall 2011 Assembly meeting.
- Melissa Biel (ABNS Deputy Director) and Bonnie Niebuhr (ABNS CEO) have been asked to present with James Stobinski (CCI) on the importance of accreditation as well as the value of certification at the AORN Congress in March, 2012.

Success Marker II

ABNS ensures organizational vitality with sustainability.

- ABNS provides benefits that delight its members.

Organizational Update

- ABNS hosted the annual Spring Assembly meeting and Certification University in March 2011 and the Fall meeting in September, 2011.
 - Program evaluation was distributed to members. Over 93% of participants indicated a “high” level of approval for the ABNS meeting and Certification University. Areas for improvement were reviewed and suggestions for future meetings used for planning.
 - PR Committee members continue to provide mentors for first time Assembly attendees.
 - Honored and recognized special accomplishments in the field of nursing certification.
- In conjunction with the Program Committee, planned and implemented the Certification Assembly meeting for Fall 2011. Booked speakers, applied for CNE approval through AACN, and received approval for 5.50 contact hours.
- ABNS Accounting Firm, Ciuni and Panichi, completed a review of June 30, 2011 and 2010 ABNS financial statements.
- Quarterly ABNS/ABSNC newsletter is distributed electronically to membership.
- A Marketing Tool Kit was launched in May, 2011. Subsequent additions to the toolkit will be posted on the Members Only section of the website.
- The Call for Nominations for a Secretary/Treasurer, and Nominations and Election Committee members was disseminated in Fall, 2011 and nominations were received. The Slate of Nominees was disseminated to the Regular Members in January, 2012. Elections will occur on March 2, 2012 during the ABNS Assembly’s business meeting.
- The ABNS Board and Staff met with Affiliate members at the Fall 2011 Assembly meeting to discuss their views on how ABNS can increase revenue. Further discussion about ideas that were generated will occur at the ABNS Spring 2012 Assembly meeting and post Assembly meeting Board Strategic Planning Retreat.
- Poll questions posted by members on Groupsite are not generating significant responses. Members are encouraged to respond to questions so that information on a specific topic is communicated widely to be of benefit to members.
- Member Organizational Profile survey completed in May/June 2011 and posted on the ABNS website under Members Only section. The 2012 survey will be distributed to members in May.

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.

Organizational Update

- With support from the Canadian Nurses Association, the certification bibliography was updated to include all 2011 certification-related documents in process. The updated bib is available on the ABNS website.
- The Research Committee created a document that outlines the various models that ABNS may use to support and facilitate research. This was disseminated to members.

- The Research Committee has developed a process to allow for sharing of research projects. It was disseminated via the quarterly newsletter and Groupsite. Additional focus needs to be placed on this tool to be more actively used.
- In partnership with AACN Certification Corporation, 26 ABNS members are sponsoring a national research project to examine trends in specialty certification of RNs in acute care hospitals using the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®). Dr. Diane Boyle, NDNQI Principal Investigator, is leading the two Phase research project, which began in November 2010. Phase I is complete and Phase II is underway. All participating organizations have received their credential-specific data from Phase I.

Success Marker IV

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

Organizational Update

- The ABNS Board of Directors endorsed the statement on Continuing Competence as proposed by NBCHPN. ABNS is implementing a marketing and outreach plan, funded by NBCHPN, to increase use of the statement.
- As part of the work of the NBCHPN sponsored Continuing Competence Task Force, the Research Committee discussed strategies to identify how nursing certification organizations are using continuing competence in certification and recertification programs.
- BCEN has completed a review of state boards that reference nursing certification in state practice acts. This summary document has been shared with ABNS and is posted on the ABNS Members only website.
- Continuing competence statement manuscript (Case DiLeonardi & Biel) was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Nursing Education in Nursing*.
- Jackie Stewart, ABNS President and Betty Case DiLeonardi (NBCHPN) presented a poster session on the Continuing Competence document at the 2011 ICE meeting.

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).

Organizational Update

- ABSNC activities continue in conjunction with the ABNS Assembly meeting.
- Accreditation information is also found on the ABNS website.
- Opportunities for LACE members to network while at ABNS Assembly meetings is provided as well as educational programming about APRN issues and initiatives.
- In 2012, ABNS will develop a Position Statement on the value of ABSNC Accreditation.