

ABNS Organizational Report for 2013 Annual Meeting

This report reflects the accomplishments and activities of ABNS for the period March 2012 – February 2013. The ABNS Report is formatted using the ABNS Success Markers as the organizing framework.

The ABNS Fiscal Year 2013 began July 1, 2012. Members of the ABNS Board of Directors are: Jacqueline Stewart, President (BCEN); Maria Shirey, President-Elect (AACN Certification Corp.); Rick Meadows, Secretary/Treasurer (AANPCP); Chris Hunt, Member at Large (INCC); Betty Provolt, Public Member; Dottie Roberts, ABSNC President (ONCB).

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

ABNS

Success Marker I

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

Organizational Update

- The Board of Nephrology Examiners Nursing and Technology (BONENT) has joined ABNS as a Regular Member organization and Exam Design, Inc., is a new Affiliate Member organization!
- ABNS website is continually refined and updated.
- Public Member Bureau: It continues to be a struggle for member organizations to identify Public members. To aid members in this process, ABNS and ABSNC have created a Public Member Bureau. Organizational representatives are asked to identify people they know who would be great Public Members, such as individuals in their place of worships, schools, friends, etc. Each member is encouraged 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. Currently, only two names are listed! We need your help to make this a useful resource for members.
- During Nurses Week, May, 2012, Jacqueline Stewart, ABNS President, presented the 2012 ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy to Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, NJ.
 Information about the award recipient and the three honorable mention recipients are found on the ABNS website under the Awards tab.
- Bonnie Niebuhr, MS, RN, CAE, ABNS Chief Executive Officer, has been asked by ANA to participate in a series of three webinars the second week in March, 2013 to discuss the dynamics of nursing specialties.
- Last fall, the ABNS Board of Directors approved a plan to offer webinars to our members. The
 webinars are a way to provide additional educational content with CNE credit for our members.
 Webinars are an efficient way to take advantage of current technology and expand education
 opportunities beyond Assembly meetings. ABNS has entered into an agreement with
 CommPartners to provide webinars to our members. CommPartners is a respected webinar
 hosting company that will provide the technical support and hosting of the webinars. For 2013,
 ABNS plans to offer two webinars. Depending on member interest, ABNS may increase to a

quarterly webinar schedule. Based on recommendations from the Program Committee, the following webinar topics have been identified:

- What's New in Testing Psychometrics Sponsored by NBCRNA
- Legal Issues in Nursing Certification

We are currently soliciting sponsors for webinars. If your organization is interested in sponsoring a webinar with a topic and speaker of your choice please contact Melissa Biel.

- ABNS has convened a Task Force on the IOM Report on the Future of Nursing. The Task Force
 has had two phone meetings and reviewed the Future of Nursing recommendations. The group
 has developed a work plan that lists what ABNS has done to address the recommendations and
 what still needs to be done. A survey has been distributed to the membership to ask for input
 on efforts to address the recommendations.
- The Certification Bibliography has been updated with the 2012 certification references. Thanks to CNA for continued assistance with the literature search.
- On behalf of ABNS and ABSNC, Bonnie Niebuhr, MS, RN, CAE, ABNS/ABSNC Chief Executive Officer, provided comments in response to the Call for Comments by the Virginia State Board of Nursing on Proposed Regulations on continuing competence requirements for renewal of an active license as defined in 18VAC90-20-221 and 18VAC20-90-10. Comments stated our full support for the VA Board of Nursing proposal to accept nursing certification for re-licensure purposes as a means of demonstrating continuing competence and life-long learning of registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses. In addition, comment was provided about the definition of "accreditation" used in the Proposal that the definition limits accreditation to academic accreditation and excludes accreditation of certification programs by ABSNC.

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 2012
 - o PR Committee members continue to provide mentors for first time Assembly attendees.
 - o Recognized special anniversaries of member organizations.
- The Program Committee planned and implemented the Certification Assembly meeting for Fall 2012. CNE approval was granted by AACN for 5.50 contact hours.
- A new program was launched at the Fall 2012 Assembly meeting called the Leaders' Legacy
 Lecture Series. This new program is 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. Donations received to honor such leaders
 are designed specifically to support education at ABNS Assembly meetings by providing a wider
 range of speakers on leadership issues and other topics of interest. The first two leaders
 honored were Carol Hartigan (AACN Certification Corp.) and Jan Towers (AANPCP).
- ABNS Accounting Firm, Ciuni and Panichi, completed a review of June 30, 2012 and 2011 ABNS financial statements.
- Quarterly ABNS/ABSNC newsletter is distributed electronically to membership.
- The Call for Nominations for the ABNS President-Elect, Member at Large, and one Nominations and Election Committee member was disseminated in Fall, 2012 and nominations were

- received. The Slate of Nominees was disseminated to the Regular Members in January, 2013. Elections will occur on March 1, 2013 during the ABNS Assembly's business meeting.
- Poll questions continue to be posted by members on Groupsite. This is a valuable resource for members but responses are low. 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 was completed in May/June 2012 and posted on the ABNS website under Members Only section.
- The biennial ABNS Member Satisfaction survey was distributed to the membership, results analyzed and a report completed. The report was presented to the Board and posted on the Members Only section of the website.

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 2012 certification-related documents. The updated bibliography is available on the ABNS website under the Resources tab.
- The Research Committee has developed a process to allow for sharing of research projects. ABNS continues to ask that groups that have research or evaluation projects submit their projects for posting.
- In partnership with AACN Certification Corporation, 26 ABNS members sponsored 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, led the two Phase research project, which began in November 2010. Both phases have been completed and Dr. Boyle presented the findings at the Fall, 2012 Assembly meeting. The report is found under the Members Only section of the ABNS website under Assembly Meeting Presentations. Dr. Boyle is now finishing a manuscript about the overall general model where over time as nurse specialty certification rates increased, fall rates decreased or increases in falls slowed. In addition, Dr. Boyle is engaged in a deeper evaluation of the impact on patient safety criteria by specific credentials.
- ABNS and ICE have formed a formal partnership for research. Dr. Jim Stobinski will serve as the liaison. He will serve on both Research Committees and facilitate communication and joint projects.
- The ABNS Research Committee will monitor the activity of the IOM Standing Committee on Credentialing Research in Nursing.

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. Twelve organizations have endorsed the statement. The endorsing organizations are listed on the ABNS website.
- 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.
- A continuing competence statement manuscript (Case DiLeonardi & Biel) was published in the *Journal of Nursing Education in Nursing* in 2012.
- ICE has convened a Continuing Competence Task Force and has invited ABNS to participate. Dr. Bette Case Di Leonardi is serving as the ABNS representative.
- A DNP student is conducting research on the continuing competence statement. The survey has been distributed to the ABNS membership for input and results will be shared.

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 meetings.
- Accreditation information found on the ABNS website under the tab Accreditation.
- Opportunities for LACE members to network while at ABNS Assembly meetings is provided as well as educational programming about APRN issues and initiatives.
- In 2013, ABNS will develop a Position Statement on the value of ABSNC Accreditation.

ABNS wishes to thank Jacqueline Stewart, President and Betty Provolt, Public Member, for their service in these vital roles! Their terms of office conclude June 30, 2013. Their contributions and dedication to ABNS have furthered its work, ensuring that the ABNS vision, *Specialty nursing is THE standard by which the public recognizes quality nursing care*, is within reach.