



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ABSNC Announces Director Election Results**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL - April 7, 2017**—The Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) announces results of the 2017 election for the Board of Directors. The Board elected Sandi Delack, M Ed, BSN, RN, NCSN, FNASN; Bette Case Di Leonardi, PhD, RN-BC; Anniekay Erby, MBA, CAE; Marianne Horahan, MBA, MPH, RN, NEA-BC, CPHQ; and James X. Stobinski, PhD, RN, CNOR, CSSM, for the 2017 – 2020 term of office.

“The ABSNC organization is blessed with superb volunteer support, to include my fellow board members and newly added review team members,” commented current ABSNC President James Stobinski, PhD, RN, CNOR, CSSM. “The efforts of these many volunteers facilitate our important work and these contributions are especially appreciated of late with our heavy application workload. The work of the leadership team of ABSNC, which includes Bette Case DiLeonardi, Sally Irvin, and Dottie Roberts, has been integral in the recent success of the organization.”

Sandi Delack will begin her first term on the ABSNC Board. She holds a certification in school nursing (NCSN) from the National Board for Certification of School Nurses (NBCSN). She currently serves as Health Services Coordinator for the Johnston, RI, Public Schools and certified school nurse-teacher for 800 students at Ferri Middle School. She also serves on the Institute of Pediatric Nursing and as co-chair for the RI Action Coalition for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing. Delack is also on the Board of Directors for the RI Certified School Nurse-Teacher Association.

“As healthcare becomes more complex, nurses will need to be highly skilled and educated to provide the optimum care to their patients,” Delack noted. “Specialty nursing certification challenges each nurse to learn and grow in their chosen specialty to provide high quality evidence-based care to those they serve. I am excited to join the team of dedicated professionals on the ABSNC Board of Directors to enhance the accreditation process for nursing certification.”

Bette Case Di Leonardi has been elected to a second term on the ABSNC Board. She holds a certification in nursing professional development (NPD) from the American Nurses Certification Center (ANCC). She was one of the first nurses to earn this certification and also served as a member of the

ANCC Content Expert Panel for the NPD program. She is a past board member of the Hospice & Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC) and is currently sponsored by HPCC to the ABSNC Board of Directors. Di Leonardi is currently vice president of ABSNC.

She has held a variety of volunteer roles with professional organizations within the industry, including chair of the Membership Committee for the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD), chair of the APND Products and Services Committee, and chair of the Task Force on Continuing Competence for the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NBCHPA). Di Leonardi also has served on the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*. She is a consultant in education and competency management. In this role, Di Leonardi she has developed knowledge assessment examinations and continuing education courses.

“I am absolutely passionate about furthering and documenting nursing competence and competency through the certification process, as well as other means,” she said. “I am honored to have the opportunity to dialogue with my colleagues and representatives of accredited programs.”

ABSNC elected Anniekay Erby to begin her first term on the Board of Directors. Erby is Executive Director of the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board. She noted, “I am very happy and excited to have selected to be a part of this board, the role of nursing is rapidly changing and as a non-nurse I am grateful to have the opportunity to be involved and utilize my operations and marketing experience.”

Marianne Horahan will serve a second term on the ABSNC Board of Directors. She is the Director of Certification Services at ANCC and has been with the organization for more than 12 years. “Serving on the ABSNC board helps me to appreciate all the different nursing certifiers who work hard in meeting standards and maintaining quality certifications,” Horahan stated.

James Stobinski is beginning his second term on the ABSNC Board of Directors. He has worked and volunteered in the nursing certification field for the last 10 years. In February 2017, he also assumed the duties of CEO for the Competency and Credentialing Institute (CCI), the organization that administers perioperative nursing certifications.

The newly elected leaders will take office in July 2017.

ABSNC is the only accrediting body specifically for nursing certification. Currently ABSNC accredits more than 60 certification programs from 20 specialty nursing certification organizations. The accreditation standards offered by ABSNC include Examination-Based Certification Programs, Portfolio Assessment Certification Programs, and Assessment-Based Certificate Programs. For more information about ABSNC and its accreditation standards, please visit [www.nursingcertification.org](http://www.nursingcertification.org) (> About ABSNC)

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