

**ABNS Board of Directors' Report
Organizational Update
Spring 2009**

This report reflects the accomplishments and activities of ABNS for the period October 2008 to March, 2009. It continues to be a pleasure of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Director to serve this organization: Dottie Roberts, President; Mary O'Neale, President-Elect; Leslie Anne Patry, Secretary/Treasurer; Sandra Lee Schafer, Member at Large; Miki Felsenburg, Public Member; Jeanne Martinez, Accreditation Council Chair; Bonnie Niebuhr, Chief Executive Officer; Melissa Biel, ABNS Deputy Director.

Board of Directors/Staff Activities

- The Board is pleased to welcome our new Public Member – Jacqueline Callahan. Thank you to all member organizations that submitted nominations for this very important position;
- Board conference call held December 16, 2008;
- Mary O'Neale and Melissa Biel planned the spring 2009 Certification University Program, with input from 2008 program evaluations and the Program Committee; speakers were confirmed, and an application submitted to ONS for approval of 3.75 contact hours for Spring 2009 ABNS Assembly meeting "Certification University." Application approved;
- ABNS submitted a letter to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing endorsing the *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, & Education* (July 2008);
- ABNS has engaged Seacrest & Associates to work on a marketing plan – a key initiative of our strategic plan. Work is underway on identifying and drafting of key messages about ABNS, and improving the look and functionality of the ABNS website. ABNS is also working with Seacrest to implement a listserv to improve information sharing among ABNS members;
- Updated the website to include 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, Membership Satisfaction survey report, and Organizational Profiles summary report;
- Tracked and monitored member Poll Questions and posted results on the ABNS website;
- Melissa Biel contacted the American Assisted Living Nurses Association, which has a nursing certification exam. They have been sent information on ABNS membership and invited to attend an ABNS meeting.

Liaison/Exhibit Activities

- Bonnie Niebuhr represented ABNS on the APRN Work Group conference call, December 18, 2008;
- Bonnie Niebuhr represented ABNS and the Accreditation Council as an exhibitor at the 2008 Magnet Conference in Salt Lake City, held in October, 2008;
- President, Dottie Roberts; CEO, Bonnie Niebuhr; and Deputy Director, Melissa Biel, represented ABNS at the November 2008 NOCA meeting, held in San Francisco, CA.;
- President, Dottie Roberts, represented ABNS at an invitational consensus conference sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing on *Promoting Lifelong Learning in Medicine and Nursing: From Research to Practice*, February 9-10, 2009, Alexandria, VA.;
- Melissa Biel represented ABNS on the NBCRNA Recertification Benchmarking Advisory Council;
- ABNS has been invited to join ICONS – Interagency Collaboration on Nursing Statistics. We will attend a meeting as a guest to determine if this is a good fit with ABNS goals;
- ABNS was cited in *Nursing Management*, August 2008; *Nevada RNformation*, February 2008; and the 2008 *AJN Career Guide*.

Accreditation Council and Committee Activities

Accreditation Council:

- Approved initial accreditation of the following certification programs:
 - MSNCB's CMSRN® program;
 - ANCC's Advanced Public Health Nursing and Ambulatory Nursing programs;
- Approved reaccreditation of the following certification programs:
 - ANCC's Pain Management, Case Management, Informatics Nursing, Nursing Professional Development (formerly Nursing Continuing Education and Staff Development), Nurse Executive (formerly known as CNA), Nurse Executive, Advanced (formerly known as CNAA)
 - ABPANC's CPAN® and CAPA® programs;
- Two additional certification programs currently in review;
- Working in collaboration with ABNS to create autonomy between the two groups;
- Working on instructions allowing organizations to submit accreditation applications on CD;
- Solicited nominations for 3 members of the Accreditation Council and disseminated slate to accredited organizations 30 days prior to election;
- In collaboration with legal counsel, developed draft bylaws for separate accreditation organization and disseminated to accredited organizations 30 days prior to annual meeting.

PR Committee

- Continues to identify and recruit potential members. Individual committee members were assigned specific nursing certification organizations, educational companies or testing vendors to engage in an exchange of information and invitation;
- Every first time meeting attendee will be assigned a mentor with post meeting follow up;
- Committee is working with the Board to address strategies from the Marketing and Communications Survey;

Research Committee

- With support from the Canadian Nurses Association, we have updated the certification bibliography to include all 2008 certification-related documents. The updated bib is available on the ABNS website;
- Planning for the 2009 Research Summit continues:
 - Research Summit sponsorship letters have been sent to ABNS members. To date, over \$8,000 has been received;
 - Five experts have been invited to join the Research Committee at its March 5th meeting to plan for the October Summit;
 - Certification themes were identified and validated through a member-wide survey. The survey results will be sent to the ABNS members and used in planning for the Research Summit;
 - The certification readings posted on the Research Summit website www.innovationlabs.com/research have had electronic links to the documents added where available.

Nominations and Elections Committee:

- Solicited nominations for ABNS President-Elect, Member at Large, and Nominations and Elections Committee and disseminated slate to membership 30 days prior to election.