**President Notes: Janet Monagle, PhD, RN, CNE**

It has been my privilege to serve as President for MARILN in 2015. With the help of the MARILN Board of Directors and Sheila Blomquist, our administrative assistant, MARILN had a very productive year.

Our membership reached 203, an all time high! By increasing our use of social media, we are engaging more members, more schools and more vendors. Anecdotal feedback from our membership has been very positive and our faculty development initiatives continue to draw faculty from all levels of education. Our fall conference, which featured Marilyn Oermann, was our best-attended conference ever! Our first “Faculty Award” was presented to MARILN member, Dr. Susan Mullaney, who demonstrated “Excellence in Teaching”. The Faculty Award was well received by our membership and we hope to increase the number of applicants in 2016.

Other 2015 accomplishments include: creation of the new MARILN website (www.mariln-nln.org) that exists on the NLN platform, increased communication among members with the use of social media, and the creation of a new program brochure that is compatible with different types of electronic devices allowing for simple registration to MARILN conferences.

The Board of Directors has exciting plans for 2016. We plan to initiate and offer a MARILN expert to speak at mini-workshops aimed to benefit our members. The goal is to generate more income and more engagement for MARILN. The additional income will serve to fund more scholarships or other initiatives to meet our goals. Stay tuned for more information!

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**MARILN Fall Conference Highlights!**

Pictured left: Our great Speaker, Dr. Marilyn Oermann

Pictured above: Faculty Award Recipient, Dr. Susan Mullaney (2nd from right) with MARILN Board Member/Program Chair, Dr. Cynthia Bechtel (far right), Dr. AnnMarie Samar (far left) and Dr. Ruth Remington (2nd from left)

Pictured above (l to r): MARILN Secretary/Program Chair, Peggy O’Connor and past Board Member, Dr. Susan Taylor

Pictured (l to r): MARILN Board Members, Mary Tarbell and Dr. Sandra Shapiro

Pictured above (l to r): MARILN Board Member/Nominations Chair, Dr. Cassie Delcheccolo and MARILN Board Member/Poster Chair, Dr. Sandra Shapiro

Pictured above: Scholarship recipients, Kristin Carey (far left) and Lisa Thomas (2nd from right) with Board Members/Scholarship Committee, Donna Gladney (2nd from left) and JoAnn Mulready-Shick (far right)
SIMULATION BEST PRACTICES

Do you have human patient simulators (HPS)?
Has all your faculty been educated in the best way to run simulation scenarios?
Do you know where to find the best information on the use of simulation in nursing education?
All nursing faculty should be familiar with the NCSBN simulation study. You can find the entire study here https://www.ncsbn.org/JNR_Simulation_Supplement.pdf
Just a quick summary, the study found that students were able to meet course outcomes just as well when substituting simulation experiences for clinical experiences. Of course that means that the simulation experiences should meet best practice guidelines.

So where do you find these guidelines? The International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) is a fabulous organization for all nurse educators using simulation and has many resources for you. In addition, they have developed Standards of Best Practice for simulation which can be found here http://www.inacsl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3407 These guidelines were designed to advance the science of simulation, share best practices, and provide evidence based guidelines for implementation and training. Adoption of the Standards demonstrates a commitment to quality and implementation of rigorous evidence based practices in healthcare education to improve patient care by complying with practice standards. There are nine standards covering these areas: terminology, professional integrity of participants, participant objectives, facilitation, debriefing process, participant assessment and evaluation, simulation enhanced interprofessional education, and simulation design.
I hope you will take the time to read the NCSBN study and then utilize the INACSL Standards to guide your simulation experiences for your students.

If you have any questions, you can surely contact me at cbechtel@framingham.edu

ABOUT THE 2016 NLN-STTI NURSING EDUCATION RESEARCH CONFERENCE
Submitted by JoAnn Mulready-Shick, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, MARILN Board
An excellent newer avenue for nurse educators to become current in the latest nursing education scholarly findings is through NERC, or the Nursing Education Research Conference.
In this new age of partnerships, the National League for Nursing (NLN) has partnered with Sigma Theta Tau International as hosts for this event. This year’s theme is Research as a Catalyst for Transformative Practice.
The conference’s objectives include:
1. Exploring innovative strategies that support education-practice-research collaboration.
2. Discussing new research findings to transform nursing education.
3. Developing nurse researchers to advance the science of nursing education in global and diverse environments.
I was fortunate to have my presentation on Reducing disparities to transform practice: Connecting the dots between student success and linguistically modified exams accepted on a research panel about The Use of Testing to Foster Success in Students at this year’s April conference in DC. I am most excited to be hearing about advances in nursing education scholarship with national experts and global participants. Do check out the NERC website at http://www.nln.org/NERC/discover-nerc to read more about What’s Hot, from this year’s workshops, plenary and concurrent sessions, posters, and presenters.

Congratulations to MARILN 2016 Spring Scholarship Recipients!

**Practical Nurse:**
Susan Haddad
Bay Path Regional Vocational High School

**Nurse Educator:**
Kerry Sorrentino
Framingham State University

*To apply for our Fall Scholarships please download an application from our website: www.marlin-nln.org*
Collaborative work between Massachusetts educators and practice partners.

Promoting excellence in practical nurse education and facilitating seamless academic progression, the members of the task force, developed the Core Competencies for the LPN in Massachusetts. LPNs share with the RN community, the commitment to providing safe, quality, cost-effective nursing care to the patients and families in Massachusetts. The LPN Competencies provide a written document which identifies the commitment to the LPN role, supports the facilitation of seamless academic progression and identifies the importance of the LPN as a licensed accountable, responsible nurse. The work allows educators and practice partners to support and disseminate the competencies to demonstrate the linkage between the role of the LPN and RN in Massachusetts, facilitate academic progression and continue to promote the effectiveness of the LPN role as a member of the healthcare team.

Community College of Rhode Island:
Rosemary Costigan has been appointed Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Hilary Jansson is serving as Interim Assistant Dean Nurse Education.

Middlesex Community College:
Congratulations to Cassie DelCheccolo for her NISOD Excellence Award! Cassie has been invited to be a presenter at the annual NISOD Conference that will take place in May. She will also be receiving a NISOD Excellence Award for her work with innovative teaching strategies that were successfully implemented in her Pharmacology course.

From the NISOD website:  http://www.nisod.org/?q=products/excellence-awards

The NISOD Excellence Awards were established in 1991 to provide NISOD-member colleges with an opportunity to recognize individuals doing extraordinary work on their campuses. Since then, more than 25,000 recipients have been honored with the Award by their colleges. Each May, during NISOD’s International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, recipients are celebrated during an elegant and inspiring gathering that recognizes their contributions and achievements.

North Shore Community College:
The Nurse Education Program at North Shore Community College is pleased to announce that Brett Mentuck, nursing class of 2016, is a scholarship recipient of the Cherokee Uniform Scholarship. Selection was based on an essay written in response to the inspirational nurses’ film, "A Nurse I Am". Entrants were asked to address the following questions in their essays: Patients and their family members base their perceptions of the care received on their personal experience with the medical personnel they interact with. After viewing the film "A Nurse I Am": (1) Describe how the nurses in the film build a positive rapport with patients and their family members; and (2) How will you ensure that you provide those you care for with a positive healthcare experience?

The faculty members at North Shore Community College describe Brett as a highly motivated student and leader. Her reflections on nursing practice are well thought out and insightful. She is a role model for her classmates.
MARILN Newsletter
Committee:
Nancy Phoenix Bittner, PhD, RN
Margaret O’Connor, MS, RN
Administrative Asst:
Sheila Blomquist

MARILN Treasurer’s Report
MARILN has prepared a balanced budget for 2016. Membership dues remain the same for 2016. Our membership is growing but we continue with the goal to increase membership and participation. Please encourage your colleagues to join! Membership is good for one year and separate from the NLN faculty membership. MARILN is continuing with the model of promoting membership with registration for our educational programs.

MARILN’s major source of revenue continues to be the high quality educational programs offered each fall and spring. In addition, our Continuing Education program approval process supports the work of our organization. Proceeds from these sources support the administrative costs of running our small non-profit organization, coordination and planning of our education programs. Our Schools of Nursing Directory is another revenue source. Please take the time to view our 2016 Directory at www.mariln.org. MARILN member schools pay a small annual fee of $75 to advertise. This is a wonderful resource for individuals who are interested in researching Nursing Programs in MA and RI.