MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Mary Lou Rusin, EdD, RN, ANEF

Greetings from Buffalo, New York! The Fall season is off to a beautiful start this year. Coupled with blues skies and crisp mornings, it is a glorious time of year. The ACEN is busy with newly elected Commissioners beginning their work on the Board. I would like to welcome our new Commissioners. In addition, Dr. Ann Bain and Dr. Janet Harris were re-elected to the Board for a second term. I would also like to thank those Commissioners who recently completed their terms for their service, commitment, and excellent work.

The work of ACEN is challenging, invigorating, and it never stops! Our volunteers, whether they are program evaluators or members of the Board of Commissioners, are among the most dedicated people I have worked with in my career as a nurse educator. Their contributions of time, talent, and energy are the foundation of the success of the ACEN in fulfilling the purpose of ensuring quality nursing education for all program types. I would like to invite you to become a program evaluator and help us continue the work of the ACEN. I heard a statement just the other day I want to share with you. "Time is valuable. VOLUNTEERING is invaluable." I hope you will consider volunteering and becoming an invaluable asset to nursing education.

The 2013 Standards and Criteria go into effect in January 2014, and the new Accreditation Standards are designed to provide nursing administrators and faculty with a clear understanding of the elements necessary to design, implement, and evaluate the quality of their programs. I encourage you to register for one of the two Spring Forums; the Self-Study Forum scheduled in April 2014 will offer a special free session focused on Standard 4 Curriculum. What a great opportunity to learn more about implementing a well-structured curriculum to ensure the best possible outcomes for your students. We hope to see you at an upcoming Forum!

Thank you for all you do to promote quality nursing education, and best wishes for a successful Fall term!

WELCOME OUR NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSIONERS

Marilyn Brady, PhD, RN  Holly J. Price, MSN, RN  Marsha J. Purcell, CAE

Please join us in welcoming three newly elected Members to the ACEN Board of Commissioners. The new Members include two educator representatives and one public representative. Also elected for a second consecutive term are Dr. Ann Bain and Dr. Janet Harris (not pictured here). The new Commissioners will be joining the Board at their upcoming meeting in mid-November. For more information about the ACEN Board of Commissioners, visit us online at www.acenursing.org.

SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE...BECOME AN ACEN PROGRAM EVALUATOR

As the number of ACEN-accredited programs continues to grow, we are seeking new ACEN Program Evaluators to represent all program types. Experienced nursing faculty members and nurse administrators from accredited programs are encouraged to volunteer in this vital role. Without the time and efforts of site visitors, the work of the ACEN would not be possible. If you would like to be considered for selection as an ACEN site visitor, please send a letter of interest, a current CV, and at least two (2) letters of recommendation to the ACEN offices. We are currently reviewing applications to attend the next ACEN Program Evaluator Forum on February 21-22, 2014, so please submit your application as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

2014 ACEN FORUMS AND WORKSHOPS

Registrations for the Spring 2014 Self-Study Forums are open, and spaces are filling quickly! The 2014 Forums are scheduled for March 20-21, 2014, in Anaheim, CA and April 10-11, 2014, in Atlanta, GA. We encourage all those planning to attend a Forum to register now as space is limited. Registrations are also being accepted for the July 2014 Workshop, Effectively Leading an ACEN-Accredited Program: A Workshop for the New Nurse Administrator. Nurse administrators and program coordinators are encouraged to register for this event as soon as possible. For more information and to register for the 2014 events, visit us online at www.acenursing.org.