Greetings from your National Program Office!

We are collectively catching our breaths after events in Colorado Springs, Boston, and Florida within the last two months! Somewhere during that time, winter came and went, and the redbuds are starting to bloom in North Carolina.

Colorado Springs weather for the 2014 Cohort Session 4 was spectacular, with amazing views of snow-capped mountains from the CCL Campus and Broadmoor Hotel. As usual, the session’s activities related to Executive Communications were fast-paced and fatigue-inducing, but the Fellows came through with flying colors. Nine ENF Alumni participated in the Health Care Day portion of the session and added to lively conversations about exerting leadership through political, legislative, regulatory or policy-related activities. In addition, our outstanding external consultants included Debra Barksdale (ENF ’11), Susan Birch (ENF ’02), Peter Buerhaus, Cynthia Crone (ENF ’01), and Catherine Dodd.

The day before the 2013 Cohort Session 6 began in Boston, February decided to create air travel chaos for everyone in the southeast and eastern seaboard. Fortunately, Val Swan was already in New England, and only one Fellow and one faculty member missed the first day. The rest of us got there eventually, including Dave. As in past years, the faculty of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and Continuum provided great fodder for thinking about innovation, creativity, and our efforts to lead health care improvement. We were especially pleased to be able to meet the new president of IHI, Derek Feeley – and to have a past president of IHI, Don Berwick, drop in on our session as well. With disbelief that three years could be almost over, the 2013’s began making plans for their graduation events in Colorado Springs next September 21-24th.

A few days at home, and Andi, Val, and Linda were off again to meet in a beautiful Florida Amelia Island Resort with the ENF Alumni Board and 95 ENF Alumni and Fellows who attended the Annual Alumni
Meeting. Every member of the ENF Family took great pride in hearing the results of the (ENF Alumni Association led) pre-meetings among leaders of all RWJF programs whose grants will be ending over the next two years. Welcoming former NAC members, Martha Farmer and Clyda Rent as speakers was a special treat as well. Each session on the topic of “Transitions” engaged us in meaningful reflections and conversations with colleagues about the transitions in our lives, both professional and personal.

We now turn our focus to planning for the future, including looking far ahead to February, 2018, and selecting dates and a venue for the all-ENF Family event that will honor the outcomes of twenty wonderful years of RWJF funding for the Executive Nurse Fellows Program.

Best regards to you all,
Linda Cronenwett
David Altman
Andi Williams

TRANSITIONS- a fitting tribute to a rapidly changing industry, professional and personal reinvention, and the emergence of new evidence to guide the creation of health in our communities.

This alumni meeting was actually the second of historical FIRSTS by the ENF alumni organization which two days earlier had developed and convened the Co Creators Meeting for a Culture of Health Entity: The Power of Unified Action. At this meeting of the 10 closing and one continuing RWJF programs, 25 leaders convened to discover commonalities in focus, desires for future engagements, networks of influence, and opportunities to prove: the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. At the conclusion of the meeting, the disparate alumni groups wondered aloud as to why it had taken so long in our history to discover and name the power of the collective, to visualize the opportunities for interprofessional and multisectoral engagement, to seek a unified vision for influence, and to act as a force multiplier of social movement. Each group affirmed three principles to guide our continued exploration and that the next steps are to canvass their membership for a solid commitment to new unified actions and to the development of a vision, form and structure to inform the future. Half the groups were empowered by their members to commit onsite and the remainder will convey the nature of their commitment by June 30, 2016. Meanwhile, ENF committed to organizing monthly calls among all participant groups to build on the momentum and explore collaboration ventures. Each group is currently vetting a unified message for use by all 11 groups as to our intent to proceed with exploration. For the ENFs, we will continue to count on our strategic planning committee to advise us as we unpeel the potential of the future. Clearly our commitment to building our ENF networks within our group while expanding our networks among the RWJF programs will challenge us to balance the polarities inherent in such a venture.

So… HALF DONE is a fitting perspective going forward. ENFs are strong in our membership with 65% of our graduates paying dues BUT we would benefit from even stronger membership numbers as we progress in our collective action planning to leverage our power. Membership gives you voice… and why would you not want to leverage your leadership voice? I challenge each of you to recruit one non-member in 2016! Our fiscal health planning for our future must start today with an active development plan, realistic revenue streams, and valued return on investment for membership dues, programming, and expanded networking engagements. Soon you will see a call for committee appointments and with 65% of our members now engaged in the work of the ENF organization imagine how much more we could accomplish with additional thought leadership on all committees as we develop forward!

Words on paper cannot nearly capture the spirit of community, good thinking, excitement, rapid learning, and the potential for influence experienced by the ENF alumni at the annual 2016 gathering. This spirit, evidenced by the ENFs, was mirrored just 48 hours earlier in the meeting by the other 25 RWJF alumni leaders. Clearly there is a belief we can accomplish more together, discover new horizons, and actualize our commitment to be a force multiplier for health in our communities by harnessing the collective thought leadership… And this is the HALF DONE that lays before us!

Franklin D Rosevelt: There are many ways to move forward and only way to stand still

LET’S ROLL!

Ann Cary, PhD MPH RN FNAP, RWJF ENF Alumni Association President
Fran Roberts (’00) Appointed to the American Hospital Association (AHA) Council on Governance. The Council is the primary vehicle for leading effective trustee involvement in grassroots advocacy, providing input into AHA policy development and enhancing communication with and involvement of trustees in the AHA. “This is one major way I can personally and professionally support the Nurses on Boards initiative,” stated Dr. Roberts.

Cynthia Persily (’01) Board of Directors, Rotary Club of Charleston, Charleston, WV 3 year term; Chairperson, Hospital Education Foundation, Charleston, WV 3 year term; President, West Virginia Behavioral Health Providers Association, July 2015-June 2016.

Patricia Reid Ponte (’01) Appointed Next ANCC President.

Nancy Shendell-Falik (’03) President, Baystate Medical Center and Sr. Vice President, Hospital Operations, Baystate Health, Springfield Massachusetts.

Margaret Franckhauser (’04) Named to the “Top Woman-Run Non-Profit Leaders” in NH By Business NH Magazine in November 2015.

Kristen Swanson (’04) Board Member, Swedish Health Systems, Seattle WA, Board Member at Large, AACN; International Research Advisory Board, Florence Nightingale School of a Nursing, King’s College, London.

Tener Veenema (’04) Appointed to the National Academies of Science Institute of Medicine CDC Committee on the Future of the Strategic National Stockpile-2 year appointment; Selected by the Fulbright Commission for a US Fulbright Scholar Award teaching and conducting research at Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland for 2016-2017; Selected to receive the Linda Strangio Editors Award, from the Journal of Radiology Nursing and ARIN in Vancouver, BC, on April 5, 2016.

Amy Barton (’05) Appointed as Assistant Editor of the Journal of Nursing Education.

Joyce Batcheller (’05) Chairperson for the American Academy Healthcare Systems Excellence expert panel.

Jody Chrastek (’05) National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, Pediatric advisory group member; Accepted as member in International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement.

Jerry Mansfield (’05) Member, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Advisory Committee, Future of Nursing Scholars Program.

Cynthia Cee Barnes-Boyd (’06) Presented with the Community Leadership Services Award of the Black Caucus of Health Workers at the 2015 meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA). The award acknowledged her “outstanding efforts as a selfless humanitarian and an exceptional health advocate for communities of color.” The award ceremony and dinner marked the 47th Anniversary of the Caucus, whose members serve as public health workers, educators, researchers and public officials who have a demonstrated commitment to improving the quality of life of African Americans and minority cultures alike.


Bonnie Brueshoff (’06) Awarded the 2015 Community Health Nurse of the Year in MN and recognized at an awards ceremony hosted by the March of Dimes on October 17, 2015 at the March of Dimes sixth annual Nurse of the Year awards at St. Paul’s RiverCentre. Brueshoff was recognized for leading her department through challenging times like the H1N1 outbreak and more recent Ebola preparations. Also noted was her development and implementation of a nationally-recognized program “Ten Steps for Breastfeeding Friendly Health Departments” for local public health departments; Awarded the Legislative Leadership Award on November 19th,
2015 from the MN Local Public Health Association for her service and work to protect the health of Minnesotans by advocating for strong public health policy and the state and federal level.

**Jeannette Andrews (’07)** Researcher in Minority Health Award, Southern Nursing Research Society.

**Keela Herr (’07)** Member, CMS Technical Expert Panel for Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRPs) Measure Development, Maintenance and Support, Washington, DC; Member, NIH Federal Pain Research Strategy Steering Committee, Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee, Washington, DC.

**Ann Cary (’08)** Board of Directors, Kansas City Area VNA -2015-2017; Appointed to the Kansas City Civic Council Task Force on Talent Attraction and Retention for Economic Development.

**Lynnie Meyer (’08)** Completed her doctorate leadership education from Spalding University in December of 2014. Current candidate for City Council in Louisville Ky facing seven other candidates in a May primary.

**Lois Skillings (’08)** August 2015, Parkview Adventist Medical Center merged with Mid Coast Health Services creating one, integrated healthcare delivery system for our region of the State of Maine. Skillings continues to serve as the President and CEO of the health system; Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, reappointed by the Governor of the State of Maine for another 3 year term (2016-2019); Medical Mutual Insurance Company of Maine, Portland, Maine, re-elected for another 3 year term (2016-2019); FHC, Inc. Board of Directors; Neuroscience Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Company (2012-present); Maine Hospital Association Board of Directors (2013-present); Daniel Hanley Center for Health Leadership Board of Directors (2014-present); Bath Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow Award (January 2016); March of Dimes State of Maine Chapter Award for Centering Pregnancy (November 2015); Mainebiz Women to Watch Award (August 2015).

**Janie Canty-Mitchell (’09)** Named Chair of the Healthcare Diversity Council (HCDC) board of directors.

**Mary Ellen Glasgow (’09)** Inducted into the National League for Nursing Academy of Nursing Education; Chair of the Nursing Education Task Force for the PA Action Coalition.

**Rita Adeniran (’12)** Delivered the 2016 MLK address for Vanderbilt University schools of nursing and medicine on January 18, 2016. “Rising above the scars: My journey to overcoming adversity and how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s teachings mirror my journey.”

**Beth Bolick (’12)** R Baby Foundation, New York, NY Medical Advisory Board.

**Cole Edmonson (’12)** Texas Hospital Association Board of Trustees.

**Susan Apold (’13)** Appointed to the American Board of Internal Medicine Specialty Board. ABIM Specialty Boards are responsible for the broad definition of the discipline across Certification and MOC. Specialty Boards operate alongside the existing test-writing committees and are responsible for making Certification and MOC relevant and rigorous vehicles in their discipline; Elected to a 3 year term on the American Academy of Nursing Fellow Selection Committee.

**Melinda Noonan (’13)** Heartland Health Outreach, Chicago, Il, for a three year term. HHO is the health care partner of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights. HHO is a federally-qualified health center providing health care services at over 120 homeless shelters in the city of Chicago.

Please note that in order to have all job announcements we receive be readily available we now post job opportunities as we receive them to my.executivenursefellows.org. Please check back regularly to view opportunities posted there.


Erin Denholm (’03) Contributed a chapter to Diana Mason’s new book, Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care, 7th Edition which has just been selected as an AJN Book of the Year.


Jody Chrastek ('05) Minnesota Public radio- Morning Edition- discussion on the use of video visits for hospice and palliative care patients; Oxford Textbook of Advanced Palliative Nursing-Chapter on Pediatric Palliative Care; Completion of ELNEC train the trainer one year seminar and on line mentoring for 15 Indian nurses, who now will be able to train others in their area in palliative care.


Bonnie Brueshoff ('06) Co-Author of Article on Maintaining the Zone of Mental Health Stability by Janny Brust, MPH and Bonnie Brueshoff, DNP, July 2015 issue of Minnesota Physicians.

Jeannette Andrews ('07) Leveraging the Mental Health Workforce in South Carolina. Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation. $766,272. Aim is to increase access to mental health in South Carolina by increasing supply of psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioners and use of telehealth.

From RWJF:
The Calls for Applications for the four new RWJF Change Leadership programs have just been released. Applications are due April 19, 2016. All the programs are described at http://www.rwjf.org/changeleaders. The individual programs and their websites are:

- Clinical Scholars - http://clinical-scholars.org/
- Culture of Health Leaders - http://cultureofhealth-leaders.org/
- Interdisciplinary Research Leaders - http://interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org/

Please check out the programs and spread the word to your colleagues and within your organization or university. If you have questions about an individual program, contact the specific national program center or changeleaders@rwjf.org.


For more than 40 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve the health and health care of all Americans. We are striving to build a national Culture of Health that will enable all Americans to live longer, healthier lives now and for generations to come. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.


HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE LEGACY of LEADERSHIP?
Reach for your STAR!
Have you been inspired by the leadership of another? Now is a great time to recognize them while benefitting the RWJF ENF Alumni Association. Please consider making a philanthropic gift in honor of one or more of your STARS. Please contact Susan Frye for more information (fryes@ccl.org) or at http://www.executivenursefellows.org/cms_docs/STARS_Donation_Call_for_2014_-_ECopy.pdf. When you designate your gift in the name of your STAR honorees, they will receive a card notifying them of your honorific gift—a special way to thank them for their investment in you! Any contribution amount is welcome!