



member SPOTLIGHT



JOYCE BATCHELLER, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN

1. Tell us a little bit about your career path, background, and passion for advancing the science of nursing leadership. What was your path within ALSN? How has your involvement in ALSN changed, improved, or otherwise served as an interesting role in your career trajectory? How did you become interested in the study of nursing leadership?

My decision to become a nurse occurred at age 5, and my nursing career thus far spans 40+ years. My clinical background includes a variety of roles in critical care nursing with a cardiovascular specialty focus. I served as the SVP/system chief nursing officer (CNO) of a large health system in Texas for 19 years. As the CNO, I provided leadership to the development of a system-wide shared governance model (11 hospitals of varying size) and, as a pilot site, implemented the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/

Institute of Healthcare Improvement Transforming Care at the Bedside Project (TCAB) principles. During my tenure nine hospitals achieved either Magnet® or Pathways to Excellence designations.

Most recently I have been an executive nurse advisor for the Center for Advancement of Healthcare Professionals, AMN Healthcare. My passion is now focused on developing the next generation of nursing leaders at all levels specifically those who are on the Senior leadership path. I am in the 6th year of leading two CNO academies – CNO I for new CNO's and CNO II for experienced CNO's. I also have the opportunity to educate nursing leaders in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program as an adjunct professor for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing.

When I was a CNO and in my doctoral program, a colleague mentioned the Association for Leadership Science in Nursing (ALSN and formerly known as CGEAN) to me and told me I needed to be part of this phenomenal organization. I immediately got engaged! When I attended my first ALSN (INARC) meeting I was impressed and excited to be surrounded by nurses who did relevant research, nurses who established evidence-based priorities and gurus who were writing the articles and books I was reading.

It was also apparent that many key nursing practice leaders don't know this work is even going on. I saw ALSN as the organization where academia and practice leaders should come together to discuss common issues.

I was elected as a board member and the VP for programs and chair of the ALSN (formerly INARC) program planning committee. The board decided in 2018 that the conference should be held annually instead of every 2 years. In addition, a vice chair of the program committee was established and Laura Caramanica currently serves in that role. She is phenomenal to work with. The program committee has been very engaged in identifying relevant topics for academia and practice leaders. Deciding this year's theme: disruptive innovation resonated with everyone.

2. What would you say to nurse leaders in academia or practice who are considering joining ALSN right now?

It is a great organization to be involved with especially with all of the changes that are being discussed at the national level. For example, AACN's revisions of the essentials for all degree programs, the NAM future of nursing 2020-2030 and of course 2020 being declared the year of the nursing by the World Health Organization. This organization is unique since it offers leaders from academia and practice the opportunity to have dialogue on these important topics. It is a very exciting time to be involved and help shape the future.

3. Specific to nursing leadership, how can we create a better balance between academic and practice partners?

There are key issues facing both academia and practice. For example, we need to prepare nurses for the roles of the future especially as we move from inpatient to outpatient settings. We need to promote and advocate for a culture of health addressing the social determinants of health, and supporting the nurses' ability to impact care at a global, national, state and local level. Engaging consumers in their health choices, care and ultimately outcomes will continue to evolve as technology changes the way care can be delivered. A continued focus on joy in the workplace, healthy work environments and enhanced interprofessional teamwork and collaboration continue to be important in our specialties.

And a last key issue for me is succession planning – both in the academic and practice worlds. ALSN is an organization uniquely positioned to engage others in the changes that need to occur with these issues and beyond. I also believe that ALSN needs to expand our partnership with AONL. Our organization has a strong academic and research base and we need to “connect the dots” with nursing leaders to decrease rework and expand our opportunities.

3. What would you like ALSN members to know?

It is critical for nurses in academics and practice to develop strong networks. This needs to occur early and continue throughout your career. ALSN is the organization that brings together academics and practice to address common and evolving issues. I know this network has been influential in my work. We all need to be involved and engaged in our profession. Nurses are doing amazing work and we need to help it go viral. We need to be willing to take risks in a time of unprecedented change and opportunity. And we need to “pay attention” to the issues facing our separate specialties and work together to transform our futures.

That is why I started a radio talk show “All About Nurses” to share with nurses and the public about the roles, challenges, and innovations in nursing. I am amazed and proud of what nurses are doing today. [Note: Wednesday's 8 PM, ET, on I-Heart Radio and iTunes; <https://www.rn.com/all-about-nursing>.]



Which ALSN member do you think we should highlight?
Let us know by emailing office@nursingleadershopsience.org