



# member SPOTLIGHT



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*1. Tell us a little about your career path, background, and passion for advancing the science of nursing leadership.*

I went to The Ohio State University at a time when a bachelor's degree was rare in nursing. After I completed my master's degree, I worked for the Ohio Nurses Association, where I met some of nursing's key leaders. I then went to service, did some consulting, and led a nursing education program in Michigan before moving to Colorado and then to Texas. Along the way, I learned that leadership – either paid or volunteer—was a key to making a difference. In CGEAN, now ALSN, the idea of advancing scholarship in multiple ways so we could be more useful and serve members so they could advance the mission and vision was appealing.

*2. How has your involvement in ALSN influenced your career trajectory – what has been most valuable about it?*

Networks of people is a key benefit of ALSN. If we have a question or need an article on something, we never have to make a 'cold call'; we know each other from meetings, and we know presenters and those wanting their work to get out.

We got a preview of people's work and it was stimulating to think about what we could do with that new knowledge. I think about our Canadian colleagues and their incredible work. They had tons of research they provided at our meetings. I advocated for an annual meeting primarily because they had graduates every year and we were missing out every other year on their research.

*3. What doors have opened to you as a result of your involvement in ALSN?*

It is connecting in intimate ways that allows us to know each other. If you are well connected you don't know who opened what doors.. It's a spider web of interaction.

*4. Let's look at our vision of the future. If you were in a hot air balloon 5-10 years from now looking down on our ALSN colleagues, what would our membership be doing?*

I hope we would be seen as the reliable and valid source of the cutting edge in leadership. There are not that many of us so we must energize the potential – and ask – what am I capable of? And if we are going to tell our stories, the story should be "the difference we made". ALSN allowed me to make a difference; I think it can for each of our members.

