



Dear Nurse Educator Colleagues - it my pleasure to serve as your Arizona League for Nursing (AzLN) Constituent League President for the next two years. Heart-felt thanks goes to the outgoing president, Catherine Mohammed, who led our organization with excellence! What a blessing that she will continue to serve on the board as the President-elect. Joining Catherine and I on the elected board are Geri Chesebrough (treasurer) and Connie Miller (secretary) both nurse educators extraordinaire. Key contributors to our outstanding board include appointees Cheryl Schmidt, Janet O'Brien, Karin Sherrill, Roni Collazo and Melissa Ruiz (see <https://azln.nursingnetwork.com/page/93759-board-of-directors>). What an amazing team! We are here to promote nursing education and serve you, our colleagues!

As the newly elected AzLN President, I want to share some of my background as well as goals! My varied experience includes medical-surgical nursing, critical-care nursing, administration, nursing research and nursing education spanning over four decades. In addition to teaching in face-to-face, online, and hybrid environments, I enjoy curriculum development, program assessment, evaluation, and participation in accreditation attainment. Currently I am an Associate Professor and Lead MSN Faculty at Ottawa University, Phoenix, AZ. Prior to this position, I served as the RN-BSN Director at Colorado Christian University, Lakewood, CO working to establish both a pre-licensure BSN program and an MSN program. My educational background includes a PhD in Nursing from Indiana University, a Master of Science in Adult Health Nursing from the University of Illinois, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Northern Illinois University. I am a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) and a member of Nurses Christian Fellowship, NLN, AzLN, AzNA, and Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society of Nursing. I have served on the AzLN board since 2017 and volunteer as a continuing education peer reviewer for AzNA. Publication includes being co-author of a book chapter regarding assessing and evaluating learning outcomes in *Teaching in Nursing* by Billings & Halstead. Doctoral research focused on spiritual care and how student nurses become ready to provide it.

Enough about me! I want to hear about you, our "boots on the ground" nurse educators living and working in Arizona. Learning more about each of you (and your colleagues) is a primary goal for the coming year. The AzLN Board aspires to serve you and in order to do that, we want to know how we can help you!

We strive to increase our membership, not just to have more numbers, but also to collaborate with you and provide continuing education that strengthens your repertoire of knowledge and skills. This is in alignment with our AzLN Goals:

- Engage in *influencing Arizona's forces of change affecting nursing education*.
- Improve awareness of the *mission and vision of the NLN* among nurse educators within the state of Arizona.
- Promote League *expansion and diversity* with active participation among members.
- Expand *engagement* of current members.
- Serve as the liaison between the NLN and the AzLN membership, promoting NLN products and services for the *professional development* of each member
- Explore *mentorship and support for the professional development* of nurse educators in the state of Arizona.
- Promote *evidence-based nursing education* standards and the scholarship of learning

COMING SOON - In order to dialogue (as Dialogue with Diann implies), we need to hear from you! We are planning to send a survey to learn more about your needs as nurse educators! We hope you participate as well as reach out with your questions/comments/concerns. Thanks for your time and for all you do to prepare the next generation of nurses! You are HEROES!

Blessings,

Diann

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