



EASTERN NURSING RESEARCH SOCIETY

President's Message

Excitement filled the air in Boston during the 21st Annual Conference and Scientific Sessions of ENRS in March. There was clear evidence that nursing research makes a significant difference in the lives of patients, families, and communities as nurse scientists spoke to the theme, "Improving Health through Nursing Interventions." Dr. Angela Barron McBride began the Thursday afternoon session addressing the topic, "Orchestrating a Career." Attendees then had the opportunity to attend sessions focused on early career development or issues in designing and testing intervention research. In the evening, Dr. Nancy Bergstrom discussed her journey as a researcher through her presentation, "Disseminating and Translating Research into Clinical Settings."

There were multiple opportunities on Friday and Saturday for investigators to present the findings of their work and to network with others. The break-out and poster sessions, and the various symposia stimulated considerable conversation about the impact of research on healthcare outcomes and the next step in one's program of research. One of the highlights of these sessions was that the doctoral students' presentations were judged; those students who presented the best papers and posters were given awards for their work. Other awards were presented to outstanding nurse researchers within ENRS during the Annual Awards Luncheon including the doctoral dissertation award. We also continued our tradition of recognizing the best BS/MS poster presentations. The names of the awardees are identified on the next page.

The ENRS Board met prior to the start of the meeting. There was opportunity for the committee chairs and newly elected Board members to attend enabling the transitioning to new leadership roles within the organization. The Annual Business Meeting gave the members an update on the activities of ENRS. The growth in the membership and financial stability of ENRS were highlighted. Several changes recommended by the Bylaws Committee were approved. Dr. Linda McCauley was recognized for her service as secretary of and leadership in ENRS. She is the outgoing secretary and is moving to Georgia to assume the position of Dean at Emory University. The election results were: Dr. Janice Penrod, Penn State University, secretary; Dr. Arlene Smaldone, Columbia University, treasurer; Dr. Susan Loeb, Penn State University, member-at-large. Newly elected committee members include: Kathleen Czekanski, LaSalle University; Lichuan Ye, Boston College; Ann Sossong, University of Maine; Meredith Wallace, Yale University; Joanne Samuels, University of New Hampshire; Norma Cuellar, University of Pennsylvania; Mary Padden, Cumberland County College; Terry Kahlert, University of Massachusetts-Boston. A major goal for the ENRS Board for 2009-2010 is to review and revise the strategic plan of the organization and assure its congruence with the vision and mission statements of ENRS. You can obtain a copy of the Book of Reports through the main office or view the document on the website: www.enrs-go.org.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped to make the 21st Annual Conference and Scientific sessions a success. The Conference Planning Committee was chaired by Dr. Nancy Redeker, president-elect. Her committee included Drs. Laura Hayman, Regina Cusson, Wendy Budin, Diane Carroll, Rita Jablonski, Ginny Chandler, and Nancy Sharts-Hopko. Also, thanks to our sponsors and exhibitors whose support helped to make this meeting possible. And, last but not least, thank you to all who attended our conference. Your excitement and enthusiasm during the conference provided strong evidence that our conferences continue to get better every year and offer you an opportunity to learn about the latest nursing research in the northeast region.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith A. Erlen".

Judith A. Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN
President, ENRS