

Minutes

Meeting: **Illinois Nursing Workforce Center**
 Meeting Date: June 19, 2019
 Meeting convened: 11: 08 am
 Meeting Adjourned: 1:30 pm
 Meeting Locations: Video Conference: Chicago, Conference Room #9-375; 100 W. Randolph Street
 Springfield, Conference Room #258; 320 W. Washington Street

Board Members Present: Kathleen Delaney, Chairperson
 Lynda M. Bartlett, Member
 Laura W. Bernaix, Member
 Krista L. Jones, Member
 Cynthia Maskey, Member
 Marsha A. Prater, Member
 Linda D. Taylor, Vice-chairperson
 Theresa E. Towle, Member

Board Members Absent: Susan Edamala, Member
 Carmen C. Hovanec, Member

Staff Present: Linda B. Roberts, Manager

Guests Present: Chicago:

IBHE Nurse Educator Fellows: Keith Bakken, MS, RN; Charlene Bermele, DNP, RN, CNE; Elizabeth A. Davis, DNP, RN, CNL, RNC-MNN; Kara Fenne, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN; Lindsey Garfield, PhD, RN, WHNP; Ashley Hasselbring, MSN, RN, CCRN; Melissa Jarvill, PhD, RNC-NIC, CHSE, CNE; Angela M. Lepkowski, DNP, RN, NCSN, PHNA-BC; Nancy M. Petges, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE; Brooke Lyn Piper, DNP, MSN, RN; Karen M. Roberson, DNP, RN

Guests Present: Springfield:

Karen Helland, IBHE Senior Associate Director Policy Studies

IBHE Nurse Educator Fellows: Angela Andrews, PhD, RN; John R. Blakeman, MSN, RN, PCCN-K; Susan M. Carl, MSN, RN

Topic	Action
I. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions Board members, Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) staff introduce themselves.	Meeting called to order by L. Taylor, Vice-Chairperson
II. Declaration of a Quorum at 11:08am	L. Taylor declares quorum
Reorder agenda: V. Old Business	
1. Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellows recognition ceremony FY2019 Nurse Educator Fellows project presentations and awarding of certificates. Each Fellow presented about the project accomplished with the IBHE grant; group pictures taken for a future news release. Individual project details are found in Appendix #A of these minutes.	
(11:50am - 12:00pm) Break	
Resume agenda:	
III. Approval of Minutes (Action) 1. Approval of the April 10, 2019 Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board meeting minutes.	Approval by consensus of April 10, 2019 minutes.
IV. Announcements	

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Illinois Healthcare Action Coalition Public Health Nurse Leaders Webinar: Successful Academic-Practice Partnerships in Illinois Communities, Wednesday, August 28, 2019 11am - 12pm CT. 2. Illinois Nurses Foundation 40 under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders 5th Annual Event, September 12, 2019, Doubletree by Hilton Lisle Naperville, Illinois, 5:00-8:00pm 3. Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders (IONL) Annual Conference, September 19-20, 2019, the DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago – Oak Brook 	
<p>V. Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chairperson Report, K. Delaney <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Town Hall meeting on the Future of Nursing 2020-2030 was held Friday, June 7, 2019 at Malcolm X School of Nursing, Chicago Illinois and via webcast. Susan Hassmiller chaired the 3 panel presentations on: Integrating Social Determinants of Health into Nursing Education, Research and Practice. Testimony on Illinois data collected during online license renewal shared, including how data can be useful in determining what is the right mix of nurses to achieve improved health in a state. Written testimony submitted to NAM. 2. INWC Manager’s report <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The new Acting Director of the Division of Professional Regulation is Cecilia Abundis. b. Board of Nursing annual survey report update: draft revision pending c. Academic progression proposed project: the Illinois Association of Colleges of Nursing (IACN) is interested in convening discussion groups; ANA-IL has offered to facilitate. Discussion limited; past work of Illinois Healthcare Action Coalition Education Workgroup reviewed – which included agreed upon AND-BSN curriculum recommendations. Legislative update: the legislature is on break; a bipartisan balanced budget was passed. 3. Nursing Organization updates None have met since the last INWC board meeting. 	
<p>VI. Old Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APRN 2018 Survey Report- revisions continue 2. IBHE Nurse Educator Fellows long-term survey (2013-2019) Survey was conducted the last 2 weeks in April; 156 of the 189 past recipients were located and 114 or 73% of the 156 responded. 84% remain employed by the school that nominated them. Data to be used to maintain program funding in 2020. 3. Strategic Plan – discuss contacting new DPR Director about improving data collection and subsequent use of data. 	
<p>VII. New Business INWC FY2020 – revised meeting rooms and February 2020 revised meeting date</p>	Agree by consensus
<p>VIII. Public Comment</p>	None
<p>IX. Adjournment The next meeting of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center will be Wednesday, September 11, 2019</p>	There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm

Members of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board of Directors: Lynda Bartlett, Chicago, IL; Laura Bernaix, Edwardsville, IL; Kathleen Delaney, Evanston, IL; Susan Edamala, Des Plaines, IL; Carmen C. Hovanec, Chicago, IL; Krista Jones, Broadlands, IL; Cynthia Maskey, Springfield, IL; Marsha Prater, Springfield, IL; Linda Taylor, Normal, IL; Theresa Towle, Tinley Park, IL.

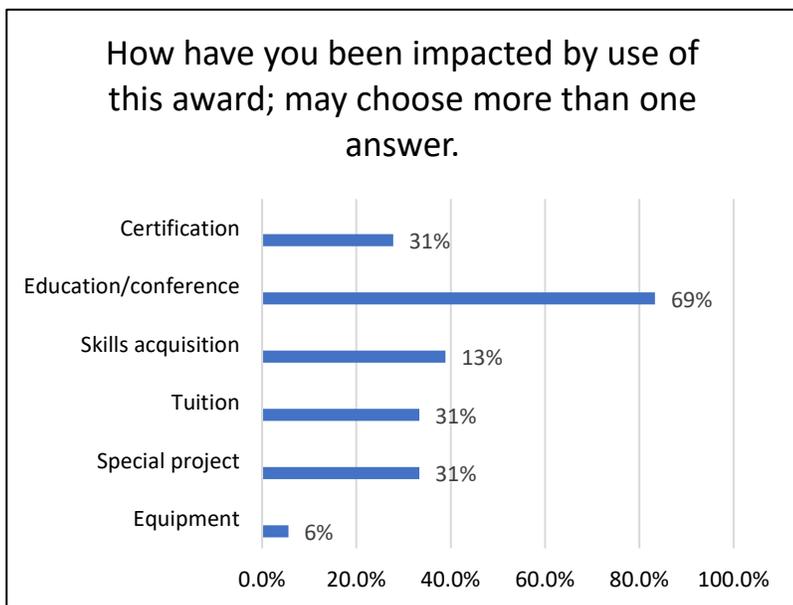
The Illinois State Healthcare Action Coalition (IHAC) was convened to advance *The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action™*, a collaboration created by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the AARP Foundation <http://championnursing.org/>.

The Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) (formerly the Illinois Center for Nursing) was established in 2006 to advocate for appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois. INWC is working with industry professionals and educational institutions to ensure that Illinois has a nursing workforce necessary to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. INWC Website: <http://nursing.illinois.gov>

FY19 Nurse Educator Fellows Abstracts and Survey Results June 2019

The Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education will recognize the Fiscal Year 19 Nurse Educator Fellows during the Advisory Board’s regularly-scheduled meeting in June 2019. Each Fellow receives a \$10,000 salary supplement and will present verbal remarks on the intended use of the award for professional development activities. Nineteen educators were selected from 34 nominations in FY19 and were awarded the Fellowships through the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The FY19 Nurse Educator Fellows were asked to complete a short online survey regarding the Fellowship. Sixteen of the 19 Fellows (or 84%) responded. All of the respondents continue to be employed in nursing education at the institution that nominated them for this recognition; this is a Fellowship requirement and all institutions will be asked to verify continued employment. Fourteen (or 75%) of the respondents are employed as faculty, five (or 25%) have a dual role as administrator and faculty member.



The vast majority of survey responses show that the Fellows would use the fellowship award to attend conferences or other educational events. Approximately one-third responded that they would use the award to help pay for tuition or for certification (such as Certified Nurse Educator), or for special projects (such as publication of scholarly research). As shown in the chart, please note that respondents could choose more than one answer so the percentages do not equal 100%.

Fellows were asked if the recognition made any changes to their practice as nurse educators. Individual responses include: (1) not necessarily practice, but scholarly thinking and program revisions; (2) leadership skills; (3) have enrolled in a DNP program; (4) was able to bring a student to conference; (5) the value of continuing education; (6) engage in research knowing that dissemination of the results will be possible; and (7) was considering leaving nursing education, was feeling very under-appreciated with low pay, until receipt of this recognition.

These survey responses indicate that the Fellowship is achieving its intended goals, i.e., to help institutions retain their well-qualified nurse educators to train nursing students so that Illinois can continue to address the long-term demand for well-trained registered professional nurses.

The IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship Award has provided me the opportunity to grow professionally in my teacher-scholar role expanding my knowledge and skills in research encompassing health promotion, simulation pedagogy, and nursing education. I have gained membership to the Midwest Nursing Research Society and attended their annual conference. At this conference, I presented a research poster on a pilot intervention study I conducted to improve medication adherence in older adults with heart failure. I was also able to network with other researchers and joined the nurse educator and health promotion research groups. I also became a member of the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses and plan to attend their annual conference to network with expert researchers and clinicians. Through this award I want to grow my skillset in simulation pedagogy in order to plan interprofessional simulations focused on health promotion. I have started taking online courses and plan to attend a simulation conference to learn more about evidence based practices in simulation. To grow as an educator, I will be attending the Southeast Nursing Faculty Development conference. I plan to take the examination to become a certified nurse educator to continue to expand my knowledge in best practices for nursing education. I am thankful to the IBHE for this award which allowed me continued growth as a teacher-scholar and progress through tenure track.

Keith Bakken, MS, RN**North Park University**

The impact of the Nurse Educator Fellowship is important in several important ways. The funds from the Fellowship are being split between two important elements to improve and inform my instruction. First, I will begin my candidacy for a Doctorate in Nursing Practice Degree at Northern Illinois University. Second is something I have wanted to do for a long time which is a conference on Health Policy in Washington DC. My favorite class to teach is Health Policy. Attending a health policy conference in Washington is important to stay current and relevant in the classroom. On Feb 4th and 5th of this year I was able to attend the **Academy Health 2019 Health Policy Conference** at the Marriot Marquis Washington There was a keynote each morning and a full day of seminars, and panel discussions on health policy. The keynote on the 1st day was Alex Azar the Secretary of Health & Human Services who covered a variety of topics but notably prescription drug pricing reforms. Day two keynote was delivered by Rep. Rosa DeLaura who is co-sponsor of the universal healthcare or "Medicare for All" Bill. There were many impactful themes from the conference, what stands out is the importance of the Social Determinants of Health and problem of Health Disparities. I have integrated many of the lessons learned into my health policy class and other classes I teach at North Park.

A bonus was that I was able to visit the Washington DC Museums and Monuments. The most impactful was Arlington Cemetery. I visited a section dedicated to nurses where there are rows of nurse gravestones. I found gravestones from Illinois nurses and two war monuments to nurses. One erected in 1838 to the Spanish American war nurses and one from 1938 to commemorate devoted service to country and humanity by Army, Navy, and Air Force Nurses. This was sobering but impactful. In addition, I was able to visit the other DC monuments. I highly recommend visiting the Washington DC monuments: This experience restored, in some measure, my faith in America. In an era where we seem so divided, these monuments reaffirmed that this is a great place to live, to learn and to work.

I have been accepted as a Post Master's graduate student at Northern Illinois University in the DNP Program. I will begin August 26, 2019. I will be attending a new student orientation on June 26th in DeKalb. My attendance will be part time (two 3-credit classes at a time). It will take 3 years to complete. I will continue to teach full time at North Park.

Conclusion: I wish to communicate my sincere thanks to the Illinois Board of Higher Education for the Nurse Educator Fellowship which made both of these foundations possible.

Charlene Bermele, DNP, RN, CNE**Saint Xavier University**

The IBHE Award has provided me with the opportunity to further my knowledge on the topic of intimate partner violence (IPV). I attended the 2019 International Domestic Violence Conference in San Diego in April and was able to expand my knowledge on the topic along with the opportunity to network with interprofessional representatives from across the country while at this conference. Disciplines of court advocates, SANE nurses, social workers, police and attorneys were just a few of the many representatives I was able to gain their IPV perspectives.

Moving forward with my project, I will be working with a representative from the Chicago Police Department to acquire information on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) teaching strategies implemented with their officers. Final stages of this project will be to develop an interprofessional simulation scenario across university disciplines to focus on informative screening and intervention strategies of abuse. Disciplines to target in this simulation will be our schools of Nursing, Communication and Sciences Disorders, along with our Exercise Science and Sports Fitness departments. The goal of this intervention will be to foster collaboration and IPV awareness across disciplines in the screening and

intervention of abuse.

Lydia A. Bertschi, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC

Illinois Wesleyan University

Receiving the IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship Award was an extreme honor. I plan to use the funds to attend CHEST, a critical care conference. I have the privilege of teaching critical care nursing to the undergraduate students at Illinois Wesleyan University, and I am thrilled for the opportunity to increase my own clinical expertise so I can continue to provide them with the best education possible. In addition, funds remaining after this conference will support my research efforts on cardiovascular disease in rural Haiti. I have started a pilot project prevalence of known cardiovascular disease risk factors, and this money will support that project to completion. The combination of these activities will support teaching, service, and scholarship - all essential for my ability to remain a nursing educator.

John R. Blakeman,* MSN, RN, PCCN-K**

Millikin University

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship Award will play a very significant role for me as I continue in my role as both a PhD student and a nurse educator. I currently teach full-time in the School of Nursing at Millikin University. Because salaries for MSN-prepared nurse educators are modest in comparison to other nursing areas requiring a master's degree or above, this grant will specifically assist me in paying for my graduate school tuition, allowing me to refrain from needing additional student loans (and associated interest payments). I am currently enrolled in a PhD in Nursing program at Illinois State University, with plans to graduate in May 2020. My dissertation is focused on women's experiences of fatigue in the weeks and months leading up to a myocardial infarction ("heart attack"). While studies have suggested that fatigue is the most common symptom experienced by women leading up to a myocardial infarction, there is a limited understanding of the multiple dimensions of this symptom, making clinical decision making difficult. While the grant funds will specifically be used for my tuition, because I will not have as much expense out of pocket for my tuition, I will have more money available to spend on my dissertation cost. Following graduation, I plan to continue teaching undergraduate students and preparing the next generation of professional nurses. I am sincerely grateful for this award.

Susan M. Carl, MSN, RN**

Heartland Community College

As I mentioned in my personal statement, I consider myself a lifelong learner and as such have been enrolled in a post-master's Family Nurse Practitioner-Certificate program for one year now. This marks the half-way point for me, and I have begun considering the possibilities and opportunities that may open when I have completed the program. I will remain in my current employment as an instructor of nursing while completing my final year of the FNP-C program and would ultimately love to be able to continue on even while becoming employed as an FNP. I have always felt that being employed outside of academia makes me a better instructor, and being an instructor makes me a better nurse. It is through this interaction that I hope to be able to inspire my current students to pursue advanced degrees when they graduate as Associate Degree nurses.

This is the first time I have had to use student loans, so the fellowship award will be used solely to address the debt that is accumulating while I am pursuing my FNP-C. While I would have continued in the program to completion even without this award, it is comforting to know that I will be able to use this award to decrease the amount I will ultimately be repaying. The decreased stress associated with that knowledge allows me to better focus on being prepared for my teaching role and for my student role.

Elizabeth A. Davis, DNP, RN, CNL, RN-C MNN

Elmhurst College

Receiving the Nurse Educator Fellowship 2019 Award has enabled me to focus on scholarship and professional development, in order to contribute to the body of knowledge within nursing education and transition into nursing practice for new graduate nurses. After completion of doctoral studies four years ago, my role as a clinical adjunct/lecturer evolved into a Program Director/Assistant Professor role at Elmhurst College. While this transition has been rewarding working with graduate students in the Nurse Educator track or direct-entry Model C students focusing on Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) certification, I have not had the ability or resources available to concentrate on personal scholarship ensuring that I, as nursing faculty, remain well-qualified in my roles at Elmhurst College. Furthermore, my focus has been to ensure by ability to role model nurse educator competencies igniting the passion for future nurse educators.

As recipient of the Nurse Educator Fellowship 2019 Award, I applied and was accepted as a participant to attend the upcoming Scholarly Writing Retreat: An NLN Mentoring Program at the beginning of June. The focus of this retreat is designed to assist nurse educators enhance their writing skills and preparing one's research finding for dissemination. Monies from the award will assist in funding participation in this workshop focusing on scholarship as a nurse educator

and dissemination of my doctoral studies which remains and on-going partnership project bridging my role in academia with my clinical practice.

Kara Fenne, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN

Aurora University

With this award, I was able to directly impact both my teaching and professional development. It has allowed me to prep for and take the CNE exam in June this summer adding to my credentials as a nurse educator. In addition, I was able to attend the International Forum on Quality and Safety in Glasgow Scotland back in March. This conference allowed me to make connections with practitioners from all over the world as well as see all of the research that is being done in population health on a global scale. In addition, I was able to deepen my knowledge and understanding on quality and safety initiatives utilizing an inter-professional approach. This conference equipped me with tools which I could use to teach the next generation of nurses to prepare them for an ever changing health care landscape as well as to prepare them to be leaders in the nursing field. Part of the conference was an immersion day within a population health initiative in Glasgow's East End. This day inspired me to begin the process of creating a study abroad opportunity for the Aurora University community nursing students in Scotland which would help them to compare and contrast population health between two different health care systems. I am grateful to the Illinois Board of Higher Education for this opportunity, as I would not have been able to experience this conference without the Nurse Educator Fellowship.

Catherine Folker-Maglaya, DNP, APRN, CNM, IBCLC

City Colleges of Chicago, Malcolm X College

The awarding of the Nurse Educator Fellowship has led to my pursuit of scholarly endeavors that I would not otherwise have undertaken. Participating in professional activities supporting best practices is essential for nurse educators. The Nurse Educator Fellowship has provided the drive and resources to pursue such endeavors. I provided a poster presentation at the 14th International Research Conference on Normal Labor and Birth held in the United Kingdom in June. It was an excellent conference and it provided an opportunity for networking with experts in my area of practice. I will provide a mini-podium presentation at the 12th National Doctors of Nursing Practice conference in August in Washington, D.C. A manuscript about the research study is nearing completion with plans to submit for publication in the near future. I continue to investigate learning opportunities for my professional growth. In addition, I will be able to purchase much needed office equipment and supplies to function more effectively as educator.

Nurse educators must be current in practice in order to favorably impact student learning outcomes. The future of our wonderful nursing profession relies heavily on the quality education students receive. The Nurse Educator Fellowship has provided the impetus and resources for my professional development as a nurse educator which will only enhance facilitation of student learning. I am very appreciative to have received the Nurse Educator Fellowship and the opportunities that it has and will provide.

Lindsey Garfield, Ph.D., RN, WHNP

Loyola University Chicago

The Illinois Board of Higher Education Nursing Fellowship award has provided the necessary funding to improve my educational skills and incorporate new strategies in education for many years to come. Currently I am studying for the certified nurse educator exam. The fellowship has paid for my resources and my exam fee. The certified nurse educator exam was accredited in 2009 with the goal of promoting excellence in an advance academic nurse educator role. Certification is considered the mark of distinction for nursing faculty. In addition to improving my own educational skills, this Fellowship has provided funding for me to share my love of nursing, research, and learning with my students. I am the mentor of a sophomore undergraduate student interested in improving nursing education on pediatric mild traumatic brain injury. This is a topic that is not part of current nursing curriculum, yet in a recent survey of nurses – nurses care for multiple patients annually with mild traumatic brain injury. The IBHE Fellowship has allowed me to take this student to a conference on traumatic brain injury. This student is in the top of her class, has written a research proposal, and attending this conference provided her with topic information and the opportunity to meet key personnel in the field. I don't want to only expose my students to the classroom, but through this conference I have shown a student that continuing post-graduation nursing education is essential to improving patient care.

Ashley Hasselbring, MSN, RN, CCRN

University of St. Francis

Thank you very much for the honor of being a recipient of the Nursing Educator Fellowship Award. Nursing education is so rewarding, yet so challenging. I strive to educate future nurses in a way that is meaningful and real. The grant monies that will be received will help me to stay in my current role as faculty by allowing me to become certified, create an online program to orient the clinical adjunct faculty I work with, and supplement my income. I plan to take the certified nurse educator (CNE) exam this summer. An online orientation for the clinical adjunct faculty will be developed using best practices. Our adjunct clinical faculty play such a crucial part in nursing education. This expanded program will

provide an opportunity to collaborate with their peers, while also allowing them to grow in their respective areas of instruction. I envision the program will deliver content throughout the course of the semester, rather than in a very short amount of time. This format will allow time for continued support and success. Additional support for these individuals is crucial to their success and ultimately, the success of the nursing students. Thank you again for this honor.

Heather Lea Heilman, MSN, RN, CHSE

Kishwaukee College

Working in nursing education can be discouraging for several reasons. The transition from bedside nursing to nursing education can result in increased hours of work, combined with decreased pay and sense of self efficacy. For example, I was an “expert” in neonatal intensive care, but the transition to the academic setting left me feeling like a novice again. I have a dual role in the academic setting as both a full-time faculty member and the simulation coordinator for our program. The lost sense of self efficacy is in part related to the inability to find enough hours in a day to advance our clinical simulation program. The fellowship award is being spent to advance my own simulation based continuing education through attendance at the INACSL Conference. I have also developed a project to improve our clinical simulation program at Kishwaukee College by offering a two- hour continuing education event for our faculty related to simulation scenario design followed by a data collection tool (needs assessment) for our full-time faculty. The data collected will be used to write a new simulation scenario for each clinical nursing course. The fellowship will allow for me to receive pay during the summer to complete the scenario development process. The project will conclude with a second two hour continuing education event for our faculty related to clinical simulation facilitation and debriefing.

Melissa Jarvill, Ph.D., RNC-NIC, CHSE, CNE

Illinois State University

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship Award is supporting my development in teaching, research, and leadership. The funding will support travel to the International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning conference to present about a collaboration between Mennonite College of Nursing and the University of Campinas in Brazil to educate graduate students on simulation pedagogy. Faculty from both universities developed and implemented a simulation course which included my travel to Brazil for the final week of the course. I am presently contributing to development of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) Certification Blueprint Reference Manual. Membership to the society is required for participation in that project. Funding from the fellowship will support a two-year membership to the society, which will also provide access to additional resources relevant to my teaching and research in simulation.

Finally, funding will also support my attendance at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Baccalaureate Education conference and the Executive Development Series for Faculty pre-conference. This will support my leadership development for my newly appointed role as Director of Undergraduate Programs at Mennonite College of Nursing. It was an honor to be selected as a recipient for this award. The monetary award will not only support my development as a nurse educator, but it will also contribute to me attaining tenure and continuing in the profession.

Angela M. Lepkowski, DNP, RN, NCSN, PHNA-BC

University of Illinois at Chicago

Expectations of my role as Clinical Assistant Professor include scholarship, practice, and teaching productivity. This award will allow me to remain in nursing education by providing me with funds to enhance my teaching, practice, and scholarship. I will use the funds to maintain active and contributory membership in a variety of professional organizations and attend conferences that will allow me to remain up to date on evidence based best practices in both teaching techniques and my specialty practice of advanced population health nursing. My professional memberships include the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators, American Public Health Association, and Sigma Theta Tau (International Honor Society of Nursing). I will use a portion of the funds to attend the National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science annual conference. This multi-disciplinary organization and conference brings experts together to enhance the practice of this teaching technique. This opportunity will allow me to confidently implement this effective teaching method with my students to enhance critical thinking and application of public health concepts in challenging real-world situations. I will also use funds from this grant to continue my efforts in improving community health based experiential learning with use of high fidelity simulation. I will implement best teaching practice and further develop community based clinical vignettes in my use of the community space in UIC’s brand new simulation lab. Pursuing these teaching and practice opportunities would not be possible without the financial support of this award.

Autumn Mels, MSN, RN

Trinity Christian College

The funds from the Illinois Nurse Educator Fellowship have allowed me to participate in a variety of different events to help improve my career as an educator and also a bedside nurse. I have greatly appreciated these

opportunities that state has provided for me and can assure the whole committee there have been changes to my professional career.

First, I used some of the funds to attend the ATI National Nurse Educators Summit that took place from March 31- April 3. At the conference I attended a full day class to help prepare me for the Certified Nursing Educator (CNE) examination. Three other days were spent attending a variety of sessions addressing topics ranging from faculty civility, the image of nursing, how to teach generation Z students and different teaching techniques that can be used in the classroom. I learned a significant amount at the conference and already have made changes to my practice as an educator. This conference had a rippling effect in that I was able to bring back this information and share it with fellow faculty to help improve our faculty team as a whole.

The second way I used the funds from the grant was that I attended the Association of Women's Health & Neonatal Nursing (AWHONN) Convention in Atlanta, GA from June 8-12. This conference provided a significant amount of sessions/workshops specifically related to my specialty. I substantially improved my knowledge on the latest evidence based research, what some of the up and coming topics in women's health are and was able to network with a variety of individuals. This experience was eye-opening has changed how I practice at the bedside and even more so on how to educate my students about specific topics.

Additionally, I have spent the funds registering for the certified nurse educator examination that I plan to take in the beginning of September. I have bought a couple of textbooks that I have been studying out of that have been great resources to improve my knowledge and understanding about being a professional nurse educator. I was also able to purchase a practice test through the National League of Nurses (NLN) which provided me with results showing me my strengths and weaknesses.

If there are still funds remaining upon completion of my CNE examination I desire to take four different courses that are available online through AWHONN. These are a variety of courses that include education on diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), sepsis/septic shock, and noninvasive hemodynamic function & assessment. I hope to take these to further my knowledge and understanding of these topics as I care for a high risk population at the hospital. By learning about this information I can also better educate my nursing students in the classroom and at clinical.

This grant has provided me with eye opening experiences and has greatly improved my knowledge and overall practice as a professional nurse educator. I am forever grateful to have received this award and can assure the state of Illinois that I will use these experiences they provided me with to help improve our future nurses.

Nancy M. Petges, Ed.D., MSN, RN, CNE

Northern Illinois University

The 2019 Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship Award will impact my ability to remain in nursing education in a number of ways. First, given the recent financial pressures within the State of Illinois, funds are scarce to support dissemination of nursing research, I anticipate using the funds to present research which has been accepted for presentation at the following conferences: (a) The 2019 AHA Team Training National Conference, San Antonio, TX (June 12-14, 2019); (b) Sigma Theta Tau 30th Annual Research conference, Calgary Canada (July 25-29, 2019); and (c) The American Association of Men in Nursing (AAMN) National Conference, Orlando Florida (October 28-31, 2019). In addition, the Fellowship Award will allow me to attend the QSEN International Forum, Cleveland Ohio (May 29-31, 2019), specifically to attend the annual meeting of the QSEN Academic Taskforce to which I have been recently appointed. In addition, the Nurse Educator Fellowship Award will fund annual fees to the National League for Nursing (NLN) and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN), as well as four annual journal subscriptions, specifically addressing nursing education.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Illinois Board of Higher Education for selecting me to receive this award.

Brooke Lyn Piper, DNP, RN

Olivet Nazarene University

I am extremely grateful to have been considered and chosen as a recipient of the Illinois Nurse Educator Fellowship Award. I previously obtained a master's degree in nursing which has allowed me the opportunity to be a professor at a Christian University as an Assistant Professor of Nursing and then also the Level IV Coordinator and lead level coordinator in the accelerated BSN track. While teaching full time, I graduated with a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in March of 2019. The DNP has enabled me to receive a promotion where I will be the Assistant MSN Program Director for the Education and Leadership tracks. I am also involved in Sigma Theta Tau serving as the President for our local chapter, Kappa Sigma, for a second term. My husband recently received his second master's degree and is

employed as an Assistant Junior High School Principal and Athletic Director. Together we are raising five very active boys all under the age of 12. This award has been invaluable in helping with the expenses of obtaining advanced degrees. The award will also assist me in pursuing my certification as a nurse educator so that I am able to remain relevant in my role.

Karen M. Roberson, DNP, RN

Joliet Junior College

Thank you to the Illinois Board of Higher Education committee members and all in support of this Nurse Educator Fellowship. My planned use of the fellowship funds includes a membership of the National League for Nursing for 2 years. This will provide professional development including research, student exam services, public policy and networking. The cost for this service is \$285 for the 2 years. Next, I would like to demonstrate expertise in the role as a nurse educator by obtaining my Nurse Educator Examination. This will help to align my education with a nurse education specialty recognition. The cost for this examination is \$400. I would also like to present my research with achievement of my DNP degree regarding assessment measures at the Organization of Associate Degree Nursing Convention. This would allow for the application of evidence and research into practice. The convention cost is \$710, room rates are \$630 (without fees and taxes based on 2018 rates), flight cost depending on location \$650, and transportation costs of \$200. Fellowship responsibilities are estimated at \$1000 and tax withholdings are estimated at \$3000. The remainder of the funding (\$3125) will be applied to my DNP student loans.

Professional development and formalized education are critical for movement of nursing education into the future and retention of faculty in the field. Aligning with evidenced based standards allows for continued support of nursing educators and furthermore the development of the profession. It is both a privilege and an honor to not only be considered for this fellowship, but to achieve funding to bring evidence into practice further assisting other faculty members to achieve success in the field.

Ariel Wright,* MSN, RN

Lakeview College of Nursing

Although I have not received the award funds yet, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship Award will enable this educator to stay within the nursing education practice by further supporting the ability to obtain an advanced degree. The IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship money helps lighten the financial burden that advanced degrees can hold, which allows educators to focus on teaching and expanding the educator role. The IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship award will fund expenses related to my Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree including books, tuition, DNP project associated fees, and practicum hours. The advancement from a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and Master's in Higher Education (MS) to a DNP will expand my knowledge in leadership, higher education, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice. Advancing in these areas assists in excelling in my role as curriculum chair, a student advisor, a post-graduate student mentor, educating students in an evidence-based practice course, reviewing quality improvement in each clinical taught, expand my abilities with publications, presenting at conferences to advance the nursing profession, and grant writing to assist with funding to Lakeview College of Nursing (LCN). Thank you to The Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (Nursing Center), and IBHE for this opportunity for nurse educators in Illinois.

* Graduate student pursuing a DNP

** Graduate student pursuing a Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate

*** Graduate student pursuing a PhD