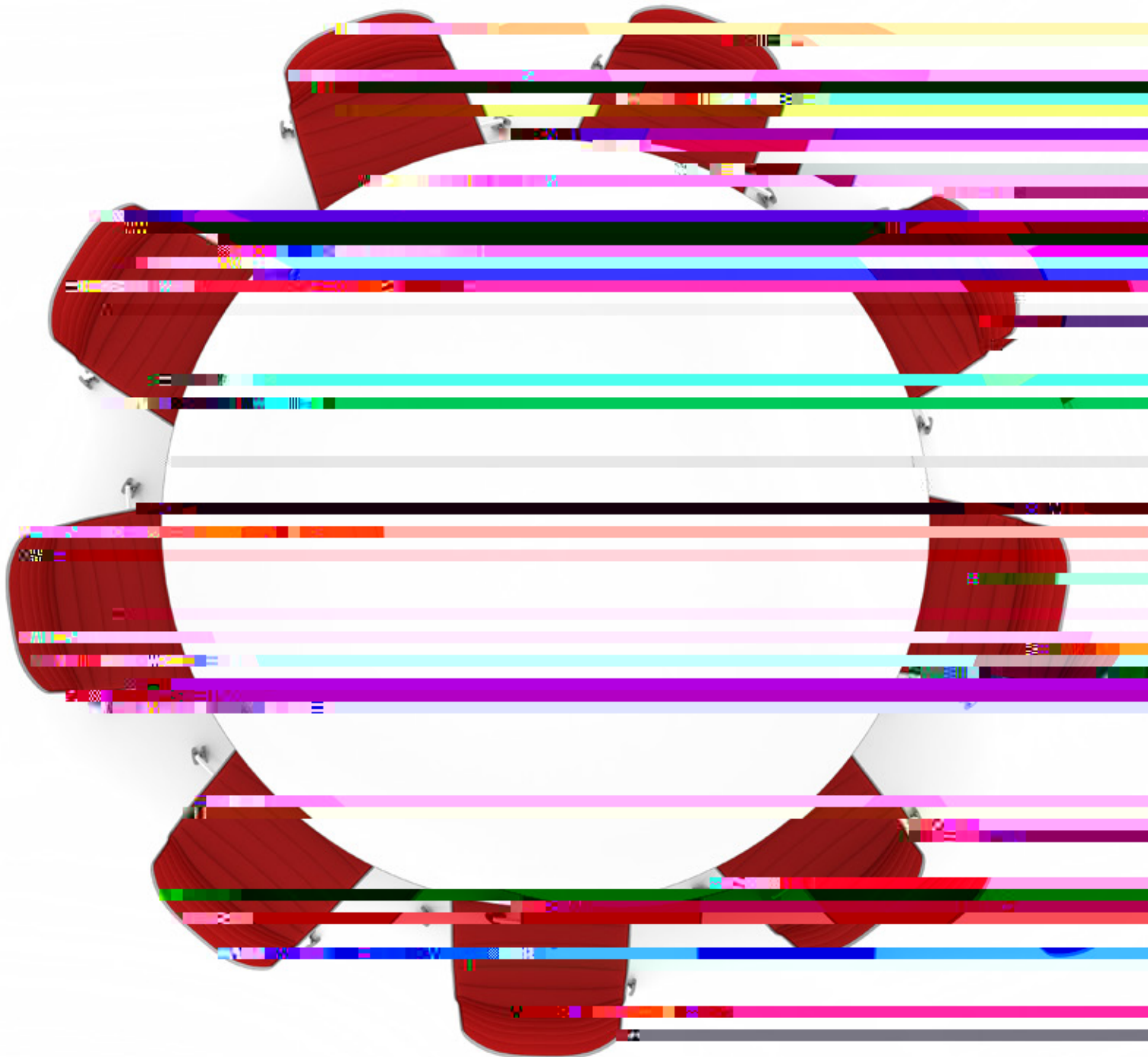


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Founded March 15, 1978, as an independent not-for-profit organization, NCSBN was created to lessen the burdens of state governments and bring together boards of nursing (BONs) to act and counsel together on matters of common interest. NCSBN's membership is comprised of the BONs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories — American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. There are also 24 associate members that are either nursing regulatory bodies or empowered regulatory authorities from other countries or territories.

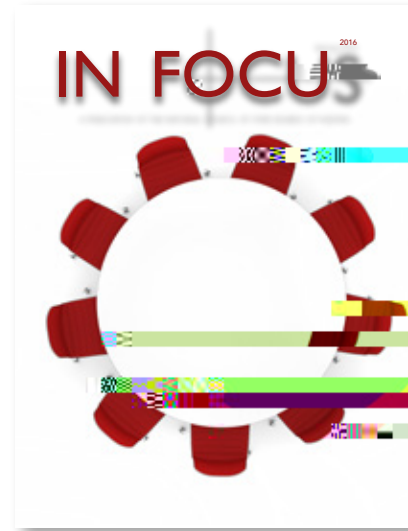
NCSBN Member Boards protect the public by ensuring that safe and competent nursing care is provided by licensed nurses. These BONs regulate more than 4.5 million licensed nurses.

Mission: NCSBN provides education, service and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

The statements and opinions expressed are those of NCSBN and not the individual member state or territorial boards of nursing.

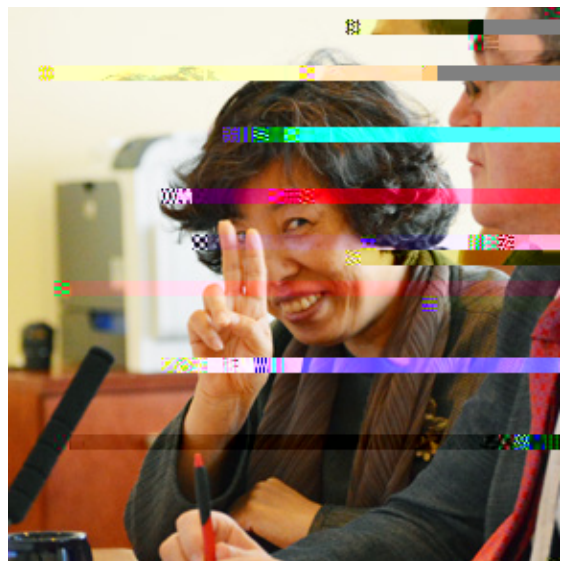
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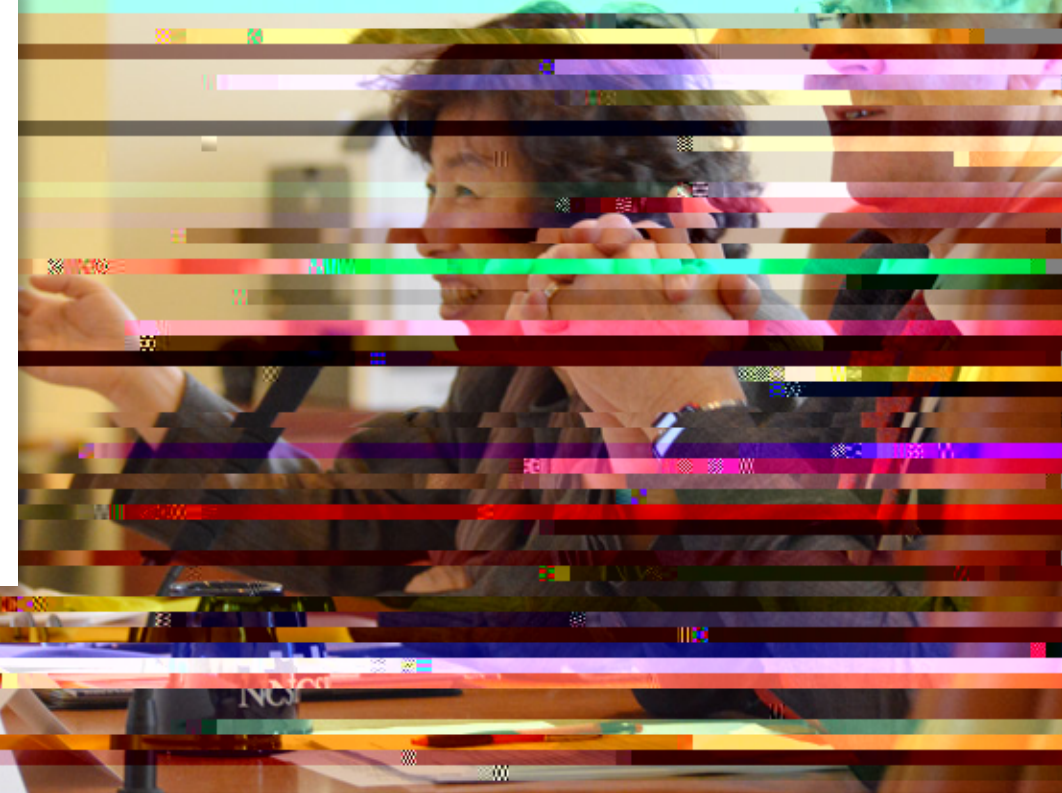


East Meets West

NCSBN Meets with Korean Delegation to reach out and work cross culturally to improve nursing care and patient safety



Kyung Rim Shin, EdD, RN, FAAN, led the delegation from the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Health Personnel Licensing Examination Institute.



Over the last three decades the Korean health care system has made significant strides, evolving from a relatively fragmented and limited infrastructure to one that embraces universal coverage and supports extensive acute medical facilities. The rapid pace of this expansion is focused on growth of facilities and upgrades of technology, but in its wake the nursing workforce is left negatively impacted by increased patient loads and a medical culture willing to spend money on doctors and equipment but little on supporting nurses providing frontline care (OECD, 2012).

NCSBN had the honor of recently hosting a delegation from the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Health Personnel Licensing Examination Institute. The group was made up of legislators, educators and government officials, led by Kyung Rim Shin, EdD, RN, FAAN. They were visiting the U.S. with a desire to learn more about benchmarking educational programs, testing, accreditation and strategic management of a nursing workforce.

One of the stresses Korean nurses face is that they have much larger caseloads than their counterparts in other advanced countries. In fact, according to the Korean Nurses Association, a Korean nurse takes care of an average of 31 patients on a shift, which is much higher than the U.S. average of 10, and 8.8 in major European countries. The atmosphere in which

these nurses try to function causes stress, early career burnout or migration to other countries with health care environments more favorable to the nursing workforce. This has led to high staff turnover and nursing shortages throughout the country (Korea Joongang Daily, 2015).

Dr. Shin commented, "Korea has faced challenges in nurturing nurses under its system and balancing the supply and demand for nurses since 2015, when the Medical Service Act was amended."

In an all-day meeting with NCSBN CEO David Benton, RGN, PhD, FFNF, FRCN, FAAN, and some members of the NCSBN leadership team, the delegation had the chance to see presentations about the NCLEX® examinations, the Nursys® database and how the NCSBN Interactive Services division provides continuing education and resources for nurses.

The group eagerly and enthusiastically participated and sought opportunities to reach out and work cross culturally to improve nursing care and patient safety. They asked thoughtful questions that sparked quality discussions around the issues of nurse competency assessment and patient safety.

"How to foster competent nurses is a common concern in terms of nursing education globally," noted Dr. Shin. "Nurse educators are interested in how to connect knowledge and behavior. Additionally, how to develop consistent competencies as a profession is also an issue."

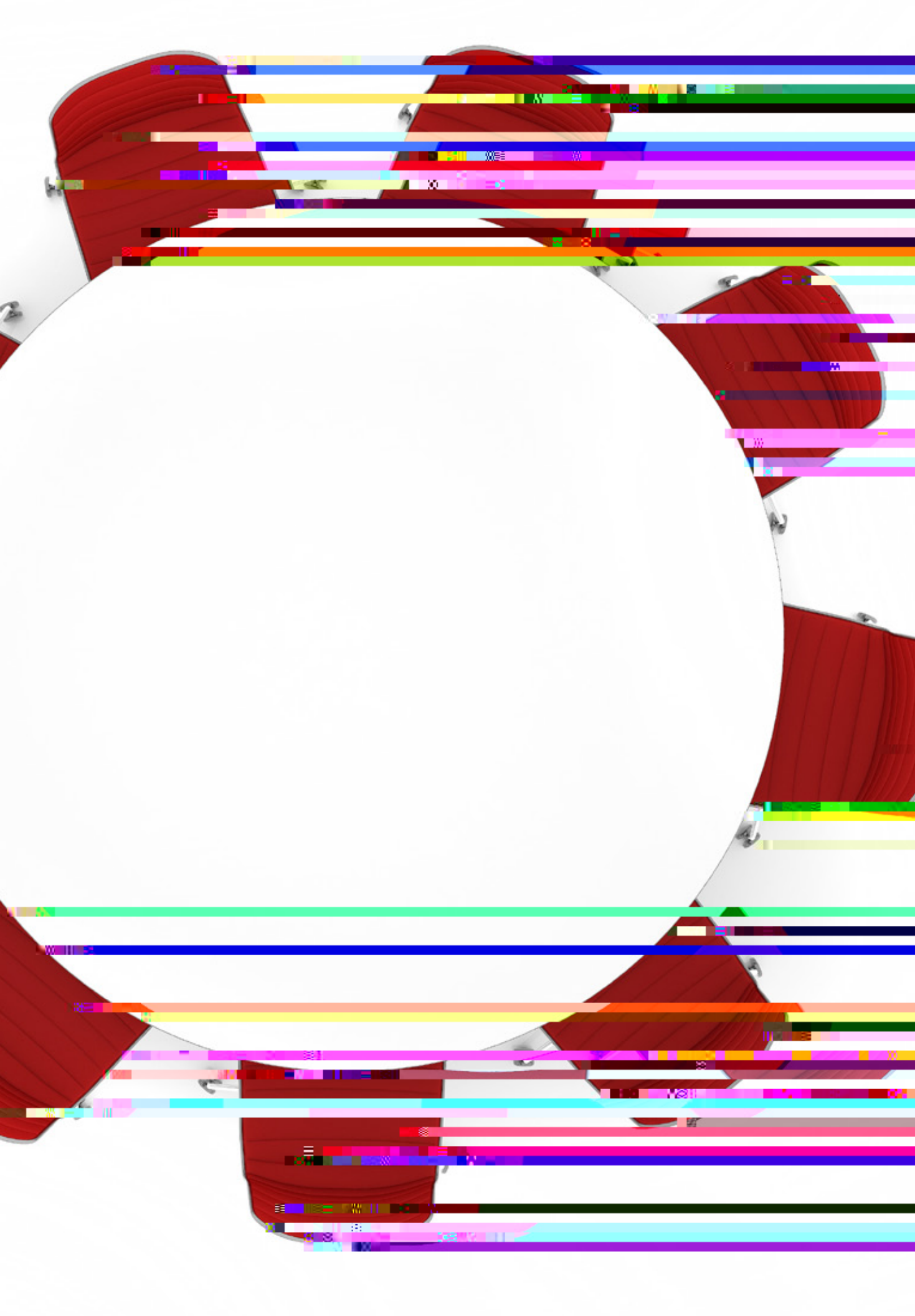
The delegation felt that the verification of validity, fairness and effective implementation strategies the NCLEX exams are very advanced as compared with the current examination system in Korea. At this time, Korea is aiming to change its test system to be more competence, performance and practice-based. AfKorem in Kor time, Kor



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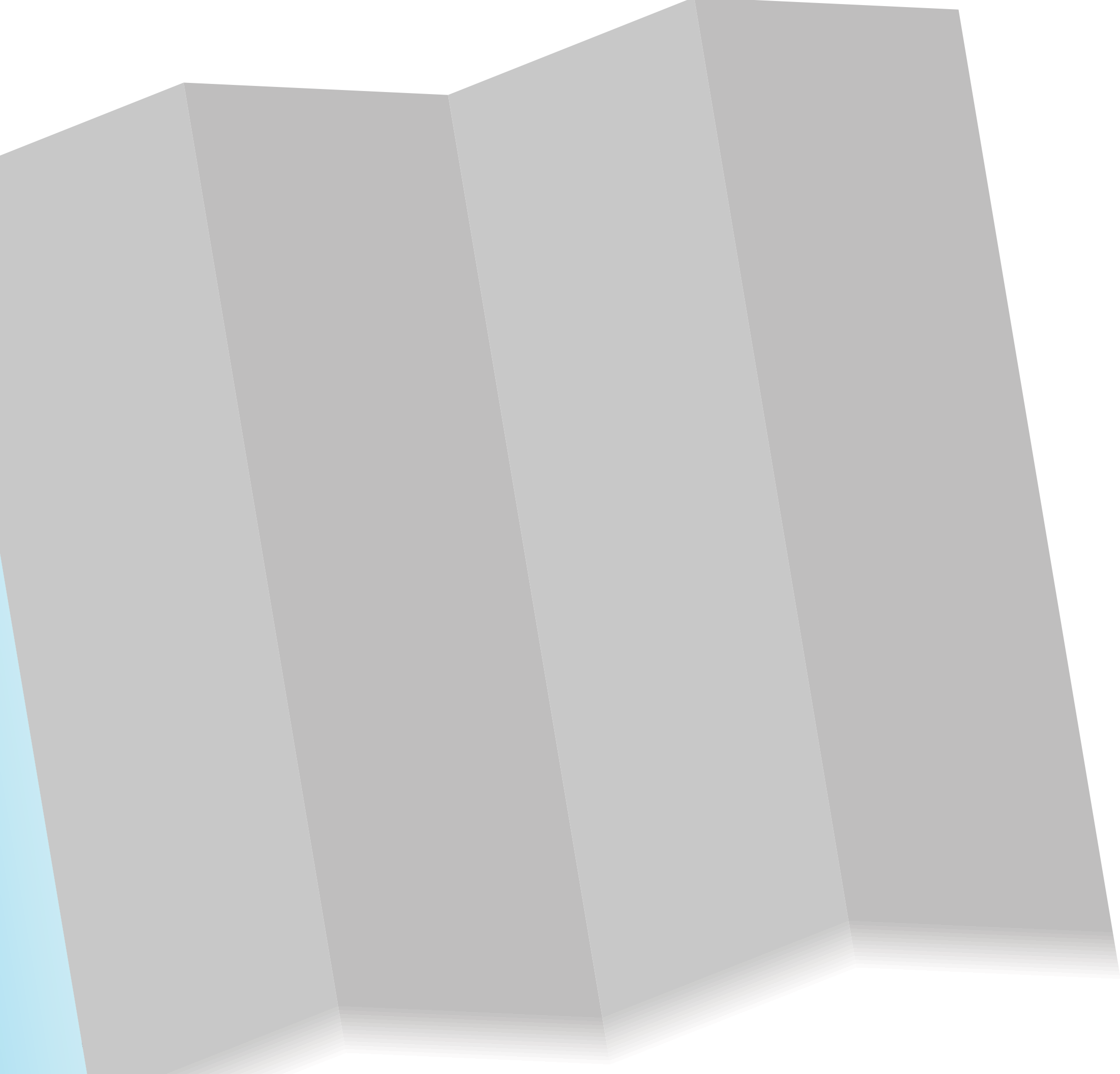




To examine NCSBN's path toward its enhanced presence in Washington, to 2008. In July of that year the NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD) decided to hire a government to help monitor legislation related identify and introduce legislation and monitored legislation related to internationally educated nurses. with legislators language and facilitated meetings order to educate them on state- and the role (BONS) played. In the spring of 2013, the on the progress they had made. current BOD president and was vice president at the time. "The Board was committed to increasing the presence of NCSBN in Washington

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and thus receives many applications from IENs.
As the Guam Board requires both police and
court background checks, nurses who come from





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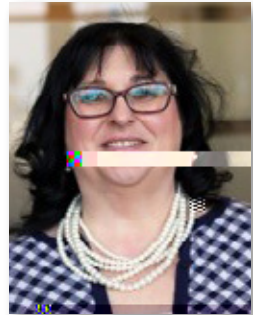
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Brown

Praise and Thanks for a Colleague

Sherry Brown, RN, MHS, will be taking a one-year leave of absence from her position as practice and standards consultant at the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba (CRNM) to embark on a new chapter in her career.

A registered nurse for 25 years, Brown will graduate from the University of Manitoba in June with a juris doctorate degree and will use her leave of absence to complete

the articling requirement in preparation for admission to the bar in Manitoba.

Brown's interest in law began in her childhood years. She wanted to help people during their difficult times, which is also what drew her to nursing. She began working at CRNM in 2011, and says that it rekindled her desire to practice law.

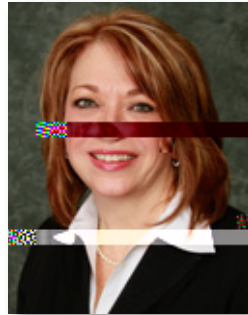
"Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for the support I received from my colleagues at the College over the past five years," says Brown. "With their encouragement and guidance, I had the opportunity to venture into new and exciting territory with our continuing competence program."

Pamela Gunn Matson, RN, MN, worked with Brown. Although she is no longer with CRNM before leaving, Gunn Matson reached out to *In Focus* to offer her praise and support for her former colleague:

Sherry's legal background and regulatory knowledge are evident in the programs she created at CRNM. She has been instrumental in strengthening our continuing competence program and integrating multisource feedback and competency-based interviews into the process. She added in multi-source feedback to the College's continuing competency program and also initiated an online jurisprudence learning module that our members are required to complete annually.

Sherry was a wonderful colleague with a well-developed sense of humour. Her strong sense of dedication in supporting professional practice for the purpose of public protection through quality nursing regulation is evident in her work.

Congratulations Sherry, and best wishes!



Sharpnack

Ohio Board Member Selected for Commission

Ohio Board Member Patricia Sharpnack, DNP, RN, CNE, NEA-BC, ANEF, has been selected to be an on-site evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). She was selected after a rigorous review by CCNE of more than 400 applicants.

Dr. Sharpnack, dean and Strawbridge Associate Professor of The Breen School of Nursing at Ursuline College, is a fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education, National League for Nursing. She is a member of the NCSBN Institute of Regulatory Excellence Committee. A board member since 2014, she currently serves as the board nursing education liaison and chair of the Advisory Group on Nursing Education.

The Ohio Board of Nursing is pleased to congratulate Patricia!

Alabama Board of Nursing Launches New Website

The Alabama Board of Nursing launched a revamped website, www.abn.alabama.gov, in mid-March. The new site features greatly improved functionality and user-friendly navigation. One new feature included in the launch was the opening of the Alabama Nursing Resource Center (ANRC), a one-stop shop which gives nurses, students, and the public access to hundreds of resources relating to nursing at the state, national, and international levels. Through the ANRC, the ABN ultimately plans to offer licensees up to 24 hours worth of CEUs, entirely free of charge.



Quinn

Arizona State Board of Nursing President Recognized as Registered Nurse Anesthetist of the Year

Randy Quinn, president of the Arizona State Board of Nursing, has been awarded Arizona's Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist of the Year distinction. The award was given on behalf of the Arizona Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AZANA) for his leadership roles in the AZANA, The Arizona State Board of Nursing and the Arizona Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Coalition.



Sutton-Johnson

Florida Board of Nursing Education Director Inducted into Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society

Sherri Sutton-Johnson, MSN, RN, nursing education director for the Florida Board of Nursing (BON), was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society (Kappa Iota Chapter) at Florida A&M University on April 1, 2016. Sutton-Johnson is working towards her Doctor of Public Health degree.

Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society's purpose is to promote high scholarship, to encourage sincere and zealous endeavor in all fields of knowledge and service, to cultivate a high order of personal living, and to develop an appreciation for scholarship and scholarly endeavor in others. According to Florida BON Executive Director Joe Baker, "Sherri exhibits this same level of excellence (a Division of Medical Quality Assurance value) in her daily work with the Board." Congratulations Sherri!



Congratulations Ann Watkins on 35 years of Service to NCSBN

Visitors and callers to NCSBN's office in Chicago have most likely met or chatted with Ann Watkins. Recently NCSBN staff honored Ann for an impressive 35 years at NCSBN. During her tenure here, she has seen the organization grow significantly.

Watkins

From her start date of May 11, 1981 to present, Ann's commitment, knowledge, integrity, professionalism and compassion have proven to be invaluable assets to the organization, making her a key contributor and treasured staff member of NCSBN.

To provide some context and perspective, on May 11, 1981, NCSBN had approximately five employees. As of May 11, 2016, NCSBN has 109 full-time positions. During her tenure, Ann has supported the work of the organization and worked with all five NCSBN Executive Directors/CEOs. She has also worked in all four of the Chicago-based NCSBN corporate offices.

Thank you Ann for your camaraderie to staff and continued service to NCSBN!



NCSBN Grant Program

worldwide.

Investigators may apply for grants up to \$300,000.

limited to:



