

AORN Congress-1st and 2nd Forum

The 1st and 2nd Forum was held on Saturday 3/29 and Tuesday 4/1. At the forums the AORN Positions Statements were discussed. These position statements were on the following subjects: Advance practice Registered Nurse in the Perioperative Environment, One Perioperative Register Nurse Circulator Dedicated to Every Patient Undergoing an Operative or Other Invasive Procedure, Perioperative Safe Staffing and On-Call Practices, Environmental Responsibility, Managing Distractions and Noise During Perioperative Patient Care, and The Role of the Health Care Industry Representative in the Perioperative Setting. There was discussion on the fact that during this past year AORN was unable to give the AORN position on several items to other associations because these positions statement were not available. They were unavailable because of the ruling last year that the changes to these statements had to be voted on at this year's Conference and Expo. In addition, there was a report from the Governance Strategic Task Force and the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN). Also clinical practice issues were discussed.

Submitted by Debbie Bartol



AORN Opening General Education Session

Poetic Voice Invigorates Attendees, Inspires Change

In the early part of “Poetic Voice,” the opening General Education session, presenter Sekou Andrews offered a disclaimer that this was “not going to be a comfortable speech.” Using an energizing and compelling style of storytelling, Andrews encouraged attendees to be different, take risks, and “discomfort yourself.” More specifically, Andrews called upon each attendee’s personal responsibility to innovation—and urged attendees to creatively “back up” your innovation, “DIY” innovation, and “Martha Stewart” your innovation.

The presentation also largely focused on having trust in health care providers. When discussing the different levels of commitment, Andrews upheld the “pinkie promise” as the ultimate act of commitment, and compared it with the type of promise he expects from health care providers not to inadvertently hurt him when admitted into their care. Andrews’ whimsical storytelling approach included his vision of a future patient-provider relationship that is centered on being connected through technology and his comparison of the patient-provider relationship to a romantic relationship.

In addition to emphasizing trust, Andrews also touched on cleanliness, accountability, empathy, and communication. Throughout the presentation, Andrews mingled with the crowd and encouraged attendee involvement, such as attendees shouting “Innovation: I am not afraid of you” and taking part in a group pinkie promise related to committing to change and safety. Later, Andrews brought the crowd to their feet to declare, “I am awesome.” In comparing his own risks related to how he invented a new vehicle for using poetry to electrify organizations’ messages, he encouraged attendees to take risks as well as practice innovation.



Submitted by Carla Beattie, RN, CNOR: delegate AORN Chapter 4702
Excerpt from Surgical Conference & Expo 2014 News; 3/31/14

Jerry G. Peers Lectureship:
Extreme Adventure, Awesome Outcomes
By Robyn Benincasa

Robyn was an inspirational speaker for our AORN Jerry G. Peers Lecture. She is a full-time firefighter for the city of San Diego and a two-time Adventure Racing World Champion. She is known for building world-class teams by her method of seeing challenges instead of roadblocks and by embracing change as a chance to learn and excel.

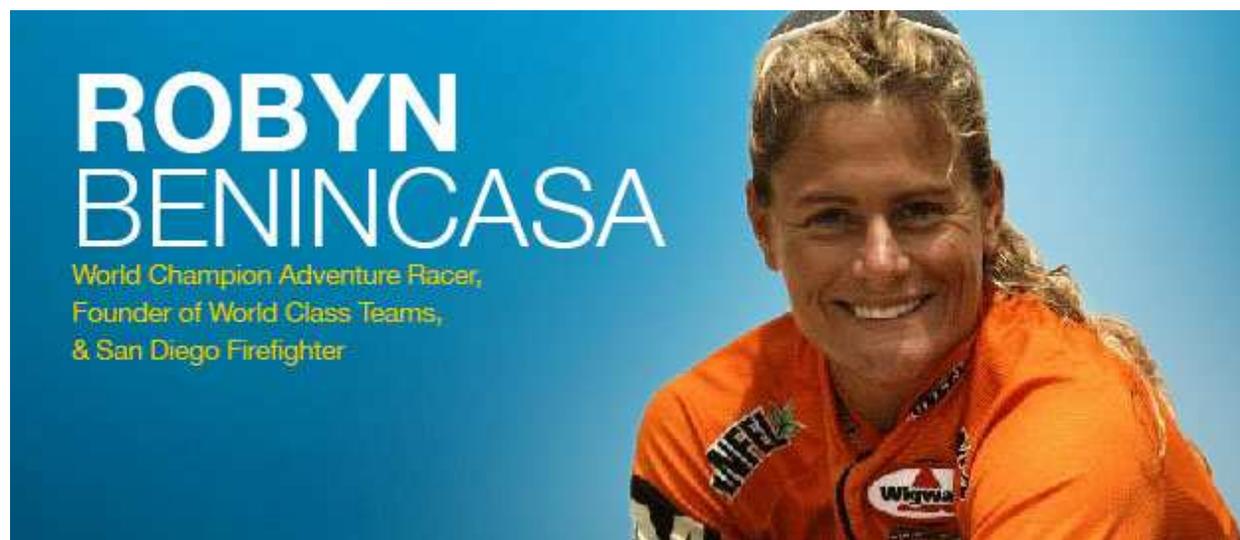
Benincasa pointed out that, as with an adventure race, nurses know where the finish line is, whether it is for a procedure or project. How nurses get there determines their success. Benincasa stressed that winning and not losing are two completely different mindsets that lead to vastly different outcomes. Using a mix of adventure race video footage and anecdotal stories and insights, Benincasa emphasized the importance of team success over individual success. “The brightest superstars don’t create the greatest outcomes,” she said. “The brightest teams do.” She described eight essential elements of team success and responding successfully to adversity or change, such as commitment and “we thinking” (versus me thinking).

During the session, Benincasa said an “amen” to wearing leopard-skin Lycra during an adventure race; spoke warmly to attendees, referring to them as her “BFFs”; and encouraged them not to forget to also amaze and inspire themselves. She also shared a helpful teambuilding tip of saying yes every time a team member offers help.

Benincasa concluded the session by inviting attendees to do what she and her teammates do at the start line before beginning an adventure race to high-five each other, shake hands, or do a “bump dance.” According to Benincasa, doing this says to teammates “I’m with you” and “I got your back.” “I know everybody in this room feels that way about one another,” she said.

It was a great way to start the day.

June Hill



Review of House of Delegates from 2014 Congress

Roll Call was longer that it should be.

Some financials for AORN:

- Congress income and membership dues make up more than 60% of AORN's income.
- Net income for 2013 was greater than 108,000
- Expected for 2014: More income but less net income
- Challenges:
 - ACA causes hospitals to get less reimbursement
 - Change in membership demographics
 - Digital VS Traditional
- Moving Forward:
 - Major investment in website
 - Investment in technology
 - AORN Journal will be published in Chinese

Membership: 44,469

- Completed a survey and some members responded they would not be interested in joining even if the dues were lower or free. This statement was alarming to AORN
- Reasons to join
 - Journal
 - Recommended Practices
 - Periop Insider
 - Position Statements
 - Continuing Education
 - Professional development

NLDC Report:

- 136 individual nominated
- 126 were eligible
- 34 applications received
- 21 total candidates

Foundation Report:

- \$2.7 million raised during 2013
- 49 academic scholarships given
- 300 professional development grants
- \$1.3 million was used for the development of new tools (kits) for perioperative nursing
- \$183,000 raised during Congress

Position Statements approved (some with minor changes to language):

- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in the Perioperative Environment
- One Perioperative Registered Nurse Circulator Dedicated to Every Patient Undergoing an Operative or Invasive Procedure
- Perioperative Safe Staff and On-Call Practices
- Environmental Responsibility
- Managing Distractions and Noise During Perioperative Patient Care
- The Role of the Healthcare Industry Representative in the Perioperative Setting

Other Items approved:

- Rescind the 2013 motion that required House approval for all Position Statements for one year.
- Change the bylaws to establish a minimum quorum for special meetings

(These items were presented and approved due to the inability of AORN to be able to present an updated/approved position statement to ACS and other organizations since ours were required to be approved by the HOD. In order to have gotten them approved, a special meeting would need to have been called and more than 1000 delegates would have had to be present at one time. This is according to the incorporation rules through NY).

Teller's Report: 2016 ballots cast

- President Elect: Renae Battie'
- Vice President: Callie Craig
- Secretary: Nathalie Walker
- Board of Directors: Holly Ervine, Donna Ford, Missi Merlino
- NLDC: Steve Balog, Vangie Dennis, Merideth Lewis-Cooney

Great Week and good times! Thanks for allowing me to serve as your delegate.

Debbie Martin



Delegates for AORN Congress 2014

Tamie Zobel, Janet Wingfield, June Hill, Debbie Martin, Debbie Bartol, Carla Beattie, and Bonnie Vencill

AORN Foundation General Session: Nurses Inspired to Tell Their Stories

For the conclusion of AORN Foundation Day, General Session speaker Peter J. Pronovost, MD, PhD, FCCM, described two simple words, “I will,” as the key to his session.

Dr. Pronovost said “I will” can provide a powerful framework for health care providers to tell their stories during “Smart Patients, Smart Hospitals: What Stories Are You Telling Yourself and Your Organization?” The stories providers tell about themselves dramatically affect how they are in their lives and in their practice, Dr. Pronovost noted, because the people who are successful and change the world are those who tell stories that will make positive changes. For example, when President John F. Kennedy said that the United States would put a man on the moon and back again, when no one thought it was possible, he changed the story, and thereby changed the world.

“I will” does not happen until providers can say “I am,” Dr. Pronovost told the audience. He asked nurses to remember why they wanted to become nurses and to “go back there, embrace it, and draw strength from it...Health care needs you to take this leadership role of telling different stories. We’ve spent too long hearing about the {safety} issues in health care as though, with enough regulation, we will care more.”

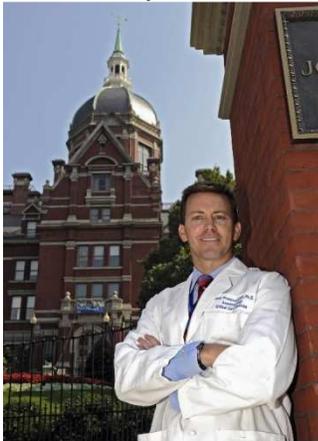
Dr. Pronovost shared his belief that health care providers perform miracles every day in the practice setting. Despite this, preventable medical errors are still the third-leading cause of death. To illustrate his message, he shared his journey toward eliminating preventable harm to patients and achieving the best outcomes and spoke of programs, checklists, and tool kits that are available. But he emphasized that safety is not as simple as implementing a checklist.

“Facilities must customize their safety programs to the unique culture and setting of their hospital,” he said. “{Doing so} can change the norms and the culture...We’ve been going at this all wrong, one harm at a time, as if that was the end game.”

According to Dr. Pronovost, the story that each nurse needs to tell is a love story. “The positive resonance of love is a nurse touching a scared patient or family member, or a person receiving or observing an act of kindness and being inspired to do the same,” Dr. Pronovost said.

“I suspect most of you are saying, who am I to say I have the power to change things? Ask yourself why you became a nurse, and go deep to that purpose. {This} will allow you to tell a new story that harm is preventable.”

Submitted by Bonnie P. Vencill, RN, CNOR; delegate AORN Chapter 4702



Excerpt from Surgical Conference & Expo 2014 NEWS: 4/2/2014

AORN Surgical Conference & Expo 2014-Closing General Education Session

“Plant Your Feet Firmly in Mid-Air: Lead through Change” By Janet Lapp, PhD

What if everyone in your organization saw the positives, not the problems, in current changes? What would it look like if people broke out of their molds, pushed their boundaries, and developed a new set of skills? Research indicates that 69% of the workplace is not fully engaged. How much time and money does this group cost an organization? How much time and energy would be saved if everyone learned a common language to identify and contain resistance? How much time and money would be saved if everyone became rekindled in their passion, became fully engaged, and took daily and consistent action toward their own goals and the goals of the organization?

We experienced a high energy, high-humor program and learned how to guide ourselves and others through ambiguity and uncertainty in a positive and productive way. Dr. Janet Lapp’s session was inspiring to nurses as she spoke of basic actions that we sometimes forget. Remember there is no greater calling than living our lives for others....service. Never give up on the power we have as nurses. We create miracles every day. We show love in our actions. We train new nurses daily. Learn to help teach others to see the future more clearly and have the confidence that they can get there. Keep your morale high to retain the best and to encourage the rest.

We have the ability to get through change. We can let go of control and stress. She mentioned never doing for others what they are capable of doing for themselves. Blaming others is an action full of guilt, worry, fear, and resentment. Let it go! We cannot motivate by beating ourselves or others up. We are good. We are good enough. We are not humans doing, but a human being. Worry is not therapeutic. If you are resentful, you have not spoken up. Let it go! People in a snit resemble toxic emotional second hand smoke. Get over it.

On a positive note, she says to be clear and ask for your needs. Have some fun. Attitude is everything. Speak up. Be confident. Just keep doing it. Continue to learn new things. You have to do the things you are afraid of the most. Courage starts where the fun stops. Have courage. Develop the courage to face new obstacles and challenges with a strong forward momentum. Take more personal responsibility and accountability for change to move ourselves into the future.

We left the session with a positive mindset open to change and opportunities. We are able to return to work with a renewed enthusiasm and spread it to those around us. “Change is a force to be feared, or an opportunity to be seized. The choice is ours.”

Submitted by Janet Wingfield, RN, CNOR
April 11, 2014



Dr. Janet Lapp

CHANGE
THE CHOICE IS OURS