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Kerr Visits Capitol Hill with Nursing Delegation

April 7, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan University Assistant Professor of **Nursing** Noël Kerr learned how to influence health-care policy at the national and local level, during the Nurse in Washington Internship held recently by the Nursing Organizations Alliance.

Kerr joined 139 other conference attendees for two days of educational sessions led by expert nursing advocates and government officials. Activities culminated with a visit to Kerr's members of Congress on Capitol Hill on April 1.

"Attending the 2014 Nurse in Washington was a valuable experience," said Kerr. "The dynamic setting was ideal for educational activities and networking with nurses from across the nation. I look forward to sharing my experiences and the insights I've gained about how professional nurses can have influence on health-care legislation with nursing students, and with my colleagues at Illinois Wesleyan."

Kerr is a member of the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nursing (AMSN) and the Midwest Nursing Research Society. She earned a Ph.D. in Nursing at Rutgers University, a Master's in Nursing at University of California, Los Angeles, and a B.S.N. from San Jose State University. She has led or been an active member on multiple AMSN National Task Forces and Committees and served on the AMSN Board of Directors from 2003 – 2006. Kerr also served on the Editorial Board for *MEDSURG Nursing: Journal of Adult Health* from 2006 through 2011. She received the Qualitative Research Section Dissertation Award from the MNRS in April 2012. Her research focuses on nursing documentation and clinical decision-making.

The Nursing Organizations Alliance is a coalition of nursing organizations that provides a forum for identification, education and collaboration building on issues of common interest to advance the nursing profession.



Noel Kerr

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